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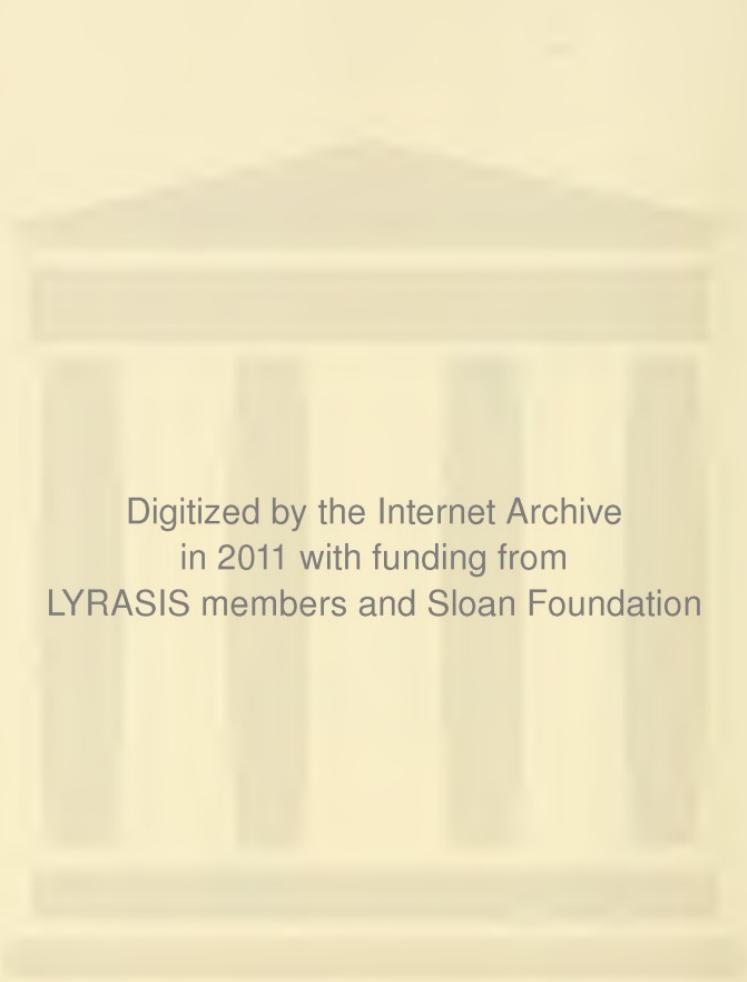
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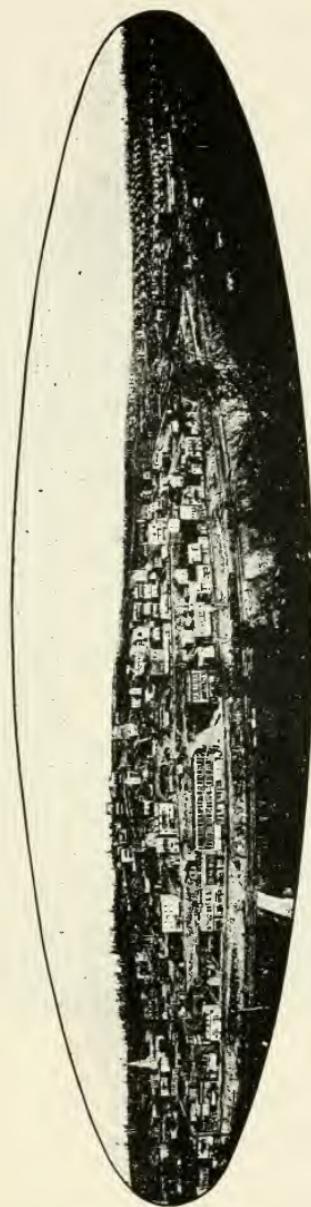


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PANORAMIC VIEW OF NORTH THOMAS



THE EDITOR

THOMAS

West Virginia

History.. Progress and Development

1906

Compiled by T. NUTTER
Principal Thomas Graded and High Schools
THOMAS, WEST VIRGINIA

NOTE—Thomas, as here considered, includes its unincorporated suburb, Coketon.

REPRINTED 1968
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PARSONS, W. VA.

To

HON. THOMAS B. DAVIS, M. C.,

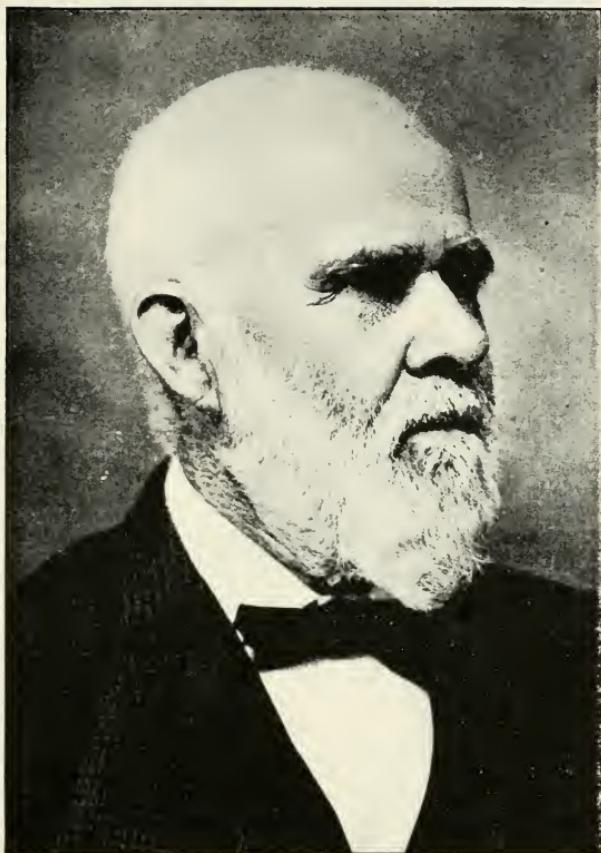
IN RECOGNITION OF

HIS INVALUABLE SERVICES

TO THE TOWN,

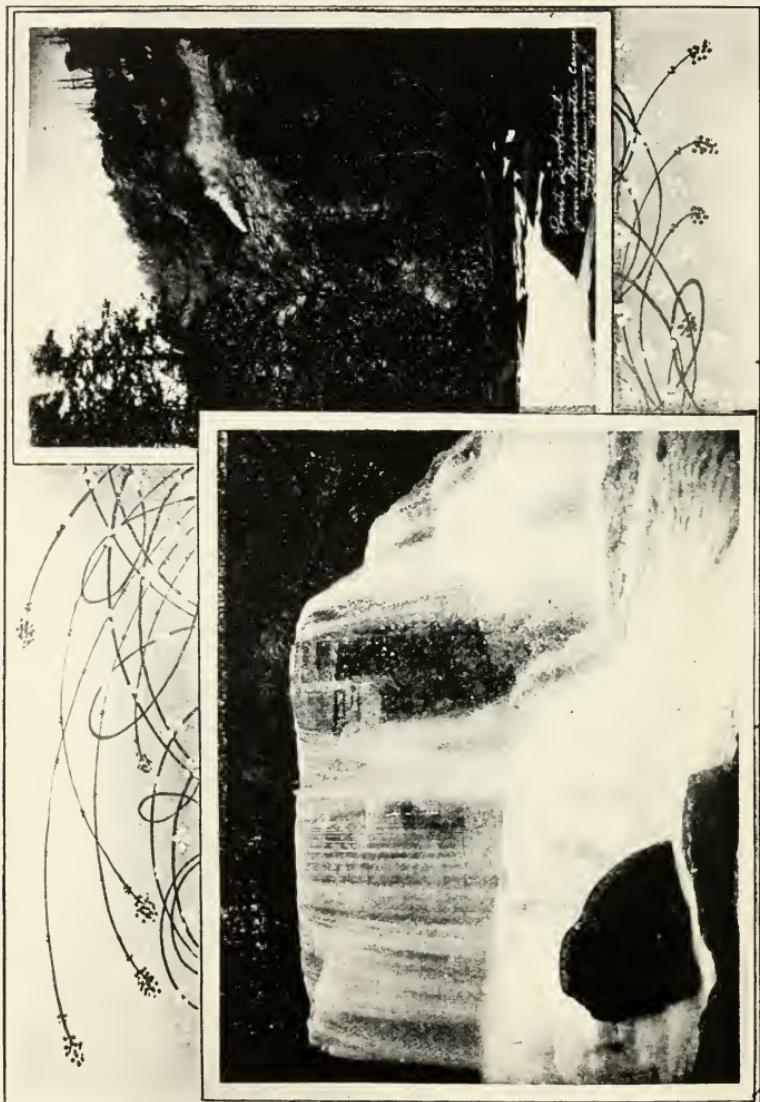
THIS VOLUME IS RESPECTFULLY

DEDICATED.



HON. T. B. DAVIS

THE TOWN OF THOMAS.



BLACKWATER FALLS—POINT LOOKOUT

TOWN OFFICERS

ELECTIVE.

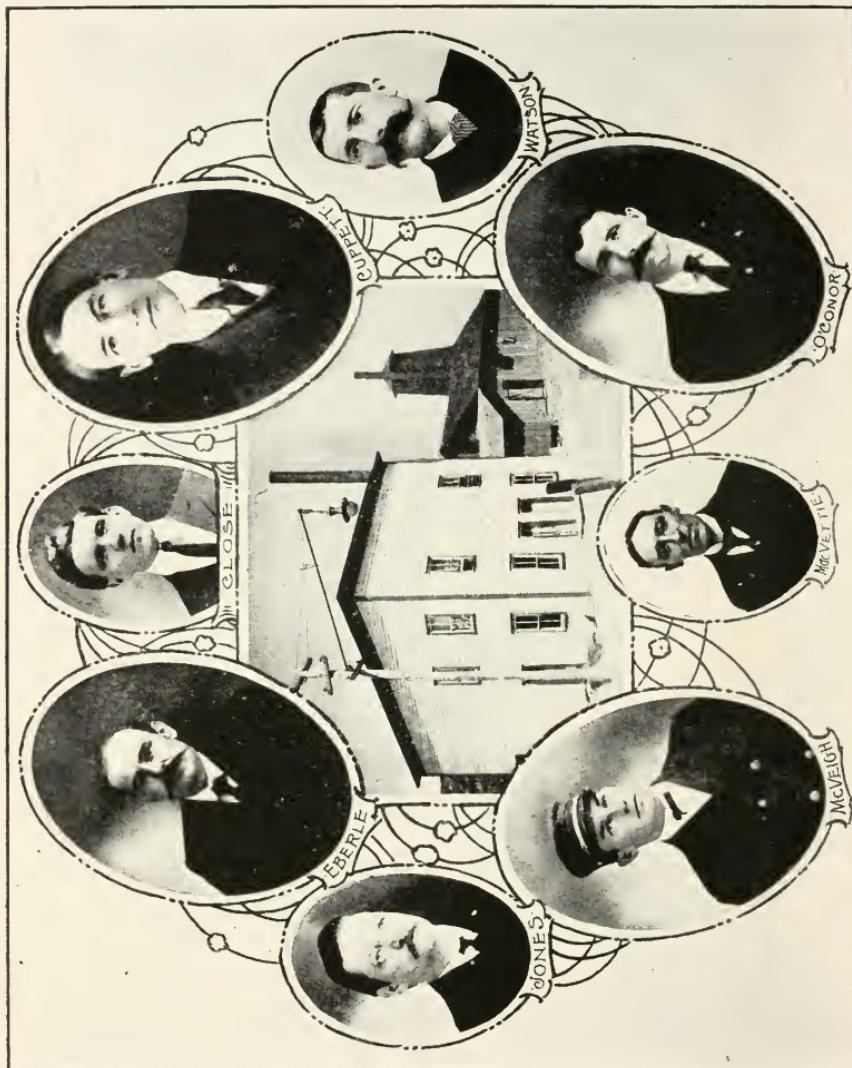
W. A. JONES, *Mayor.*
D. E. CUPPETT, *Recorder.*

J. G. O'CONOR.
J. B. WATSON.
J. A. EBERLE.
R. R. MACVETTIE.
A. R. CLOSE.

COUNCILMEN.

APPOINTIVE.

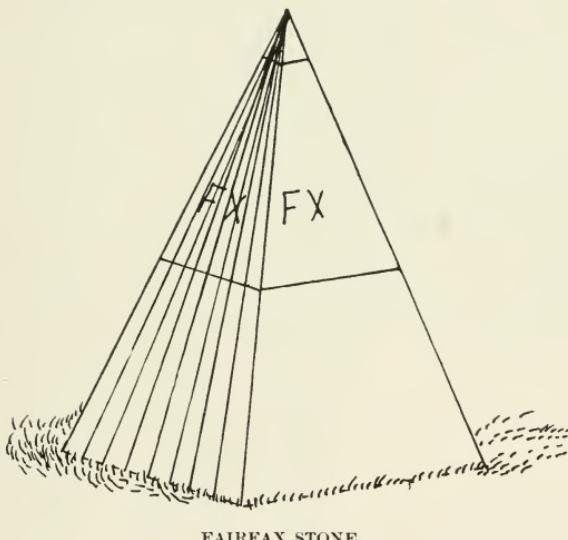
WILLIAM McVEIGH, *Chief of Police.*
And Minor Officers.



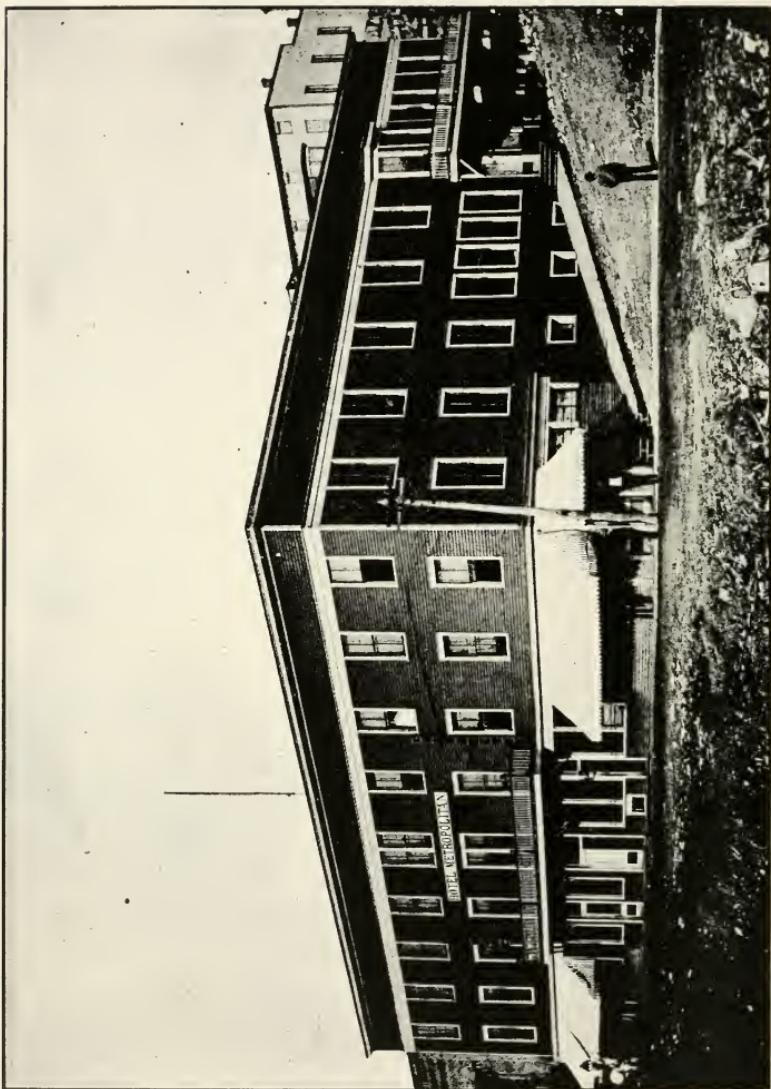
The Town of Thomas

At the outset the reader will please bear in mind that this work does not pretend to give the historical data dealing with the achievements of each year, but rather to give the more interesting and important ones and by means of illustrations and otherwise to show the town in its true light in both the past and the present. Much of the town's history and present status will be gleaned from under the special heads of Churches, Schools, Fraternal and Secret Orders, The Davis Coal & Coke Company, and Thomas of Today.

Who the first white man was to visit the site of Thomas is not known, but for ought we know it was the Father of His Country. The Fairfax Stone, one of the most interesting historical monuments in the United States, and distant only three miles, was placed at the head fountain of the Potomac in 1746; and it was in 1747 that Lord Fairfax employed George Washington to survey in these parts.



NOTE.—The Fairfax Stone has a square base each side of which is two feet and six inches. It is built of sand-stone and is built up as shown to a point or apex four feet and six inches from the base. The base is on a level with surface, and the stones forming the pyramid are three in number, two of which are each two feet high, and the cap-piece or apex, six inches high,



METROPOLITAN HOTEL

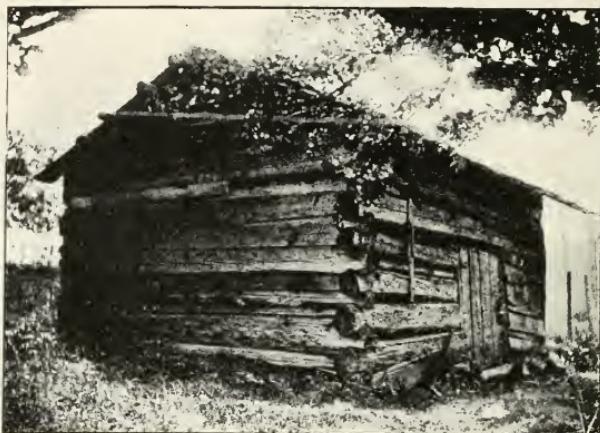


GEISBERGER HOTEL—BEFORE THE FIRE

MRS. M. GEISBERGER, PROP.

The first man to find a home in Thomas was Jacob C. Pase, a Pennsylvanian, father of Oscar, Lee and A. J. Pase, now citizens of the town. Mr. Pase came with his family in the fall of 1880 and occupied a hunter's log camp, situated on what is known as Pase Hill, until a better and more commodious house could be built. At this place it might be interesting to state that the first death in Thomas was that of Amos M. Pase, son of Jacob Pase, who died of lockjaw caused from an ax wound received while building this house.

Within three years, L. H. Pase, Daniel Miller and David Arnold had followed the same trail and built their cabins near that of the first settler. Late in 1883, a man named Bonfield came and shortly afterward opened a store just above where the Davis Coal & Coke Company's plant now stands.



THE FIRST HOUSE BUILT IN THOMAS

In August, of 1884, the West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh Railway (building from Cumberland, Maryland,) extended its road to Thomas. With the railroad came the Geisbergers, O'Days, Feeleys, Wilsons and others.

At this time, only twenty-two years ago, Thomas was surrounded by a howling wilderness of pine and laurel, and wild beasts could be seen and killed from the very house doors.

It was not until the railroad reached Thomas that the town received

all joined. The only markings are the letters "F X" on each of the four sides of the middle stone. It is stated by some of our historians that this stone was destroyed by some unknown persons and that the Davis Coal & Coke Company had another similar stone cut and put in its place, but such is not the case. The original is still in place although it has met with bad treatment at the hands of some one.



MT. VIEW HOTEL—J. B. MURRAY, PROP.



B. SCHILANSKY'S BUILDING

its name, when it was named in honor of Hon. Thos. B. Davis, then a member of the firm of Davis Brothers. With the naming of the town a postoffice was established, William McGan being the first postmaster. Robert Geisberger opened a hotel in August, the same year and month that the railroad was completed to Thomas, and soon afterward the firm of Feely & Wilson opened a second store, and William McGan a bakery.

Before going further it is fitting to state that the railroad was built for the purpose of furnishing transportation for the fine seams of coal and great forests of timber that lay in and around Thomas. A coal



MRS. JAMES DAUGHENBAUGH'S RESIDENCE

mine had been opened in the winter of 1883-1884, and was ready to ship coal as soon as reached by the road.

Equipped with a railroad, a postoffice, two stores, a bakery and a coal mine, Thomas entered upon a period of rapid growth.

The next eight years witnessed great changes and improvements. More people came, more mines were opened, and large mills began to convert the great virgin forests into lumber.

By the year 1892, Thomas had a thriving population, and a charter of incorporation was applied for and received. Some of those most influential in this move were Dr. O. H. Hoffman, H. F. E. Hinebaugh, George Martin, J. T. Galliger, L. H. Pase, James Daughenbaugh, L. F. Shobe and Frank Ferguson.

The town was bonded in 1899 for the purpose of installing a water

system, which was soon supplying an abundance of water. The town was first lighted with electricity in 1904.

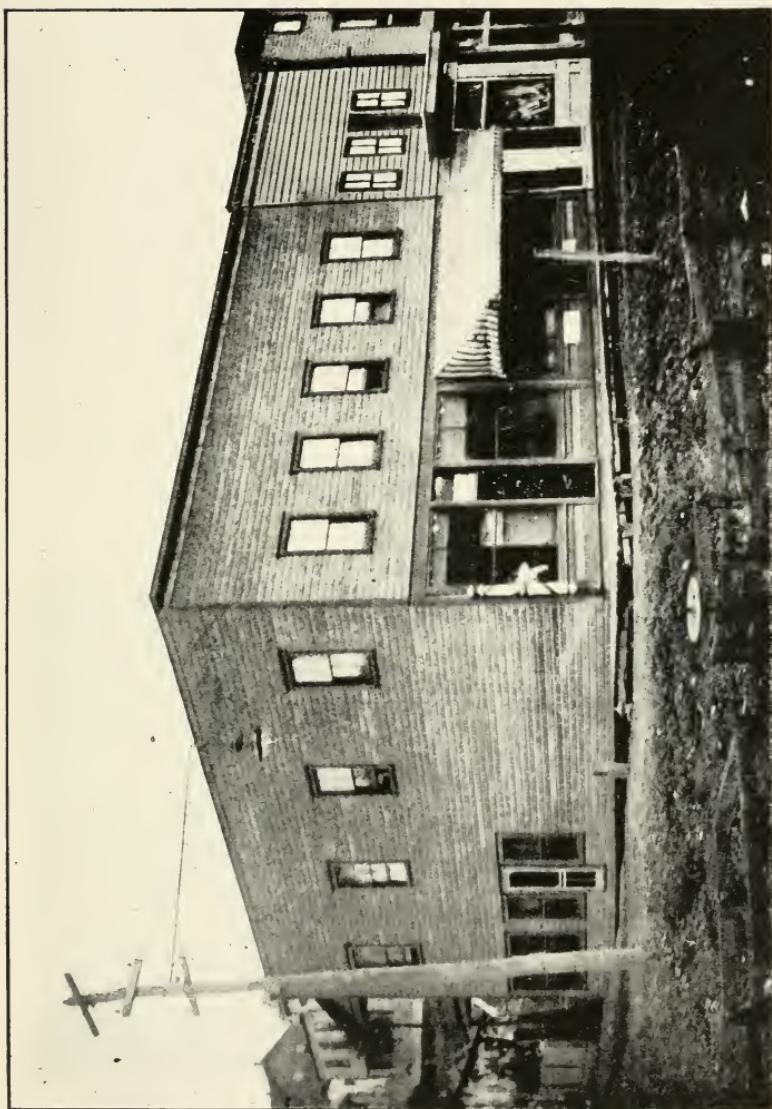
An event of considerable moment in the history of every town is the establishment of a newspaper. In 1900 The Record Publishing Company was organized and began the publication of the Thomas Record, a weekly newspaper. Mr. M. G. Smith was its editor, and after the destruction, in 1901, of the printing plant, Mr. Smith installed a new plant



SHERIFF A. L. HELMICK'S RESIDENCE

and continued the issue of the Record until February, 1905, when it was discontinued. R. D. Bennedetto then secured the plant, and a new paper was issued, called the Thomas Sentinel. W. B. Allen edited this paper for a short time when he was succeeded by William Wood. October, 1905, witnessed the issue of a new paper, *La Sentinella del West Virginia*, edited by Vincenzo Procopio, an Italian. This is the only Italian newspaper in the state. It already has a weekly circulation of fifteen hundred.

The West Virginia Central & Pittsburg Railway Company was always kindly disposed toward Thomas, and at an early date located ma-



MRS. P. E. THAYER'S BUILDING

chine shops here for the purpose of making light repairs. In 1900 a much larger shop and round house was built, and the Western Maryland Railroad, West Virginia Division, now employs, at this place as engineers, firemen, trainmen, yard men, machinists, etc., between one hundred twenty-five and one hundred fifty men.

In 1901 the company erected here the finest depot to be found along the line of their road.

The first fire that did any damage of note to the town was in 1903, when the town hall and several near-by buildings were burned. The second visitation was in November, 1901, and is often spoken of as the great fire. In the morning about three o'clock, when the wind was blowing at 40 or 50 miles per hour, those living in the very center of the business section of the town were startled by the wild cry of fire; and ere the echoes of the first alarm had resounded from the mountains beyond the town, the fire was beyond control, and in just one hour and twenty minutes from the time the first flash was seen, eighty-three buildings, including the hotel, the finest stores, and best residences, were burned to the ground.

Coming so late in the fall, and with a severe winter just setting in, hardships borne by some were great. However, the indomitable energy of the people rose above the depression, and an era of rebuilding began, and today it would seem that it was a blessing in disguise.



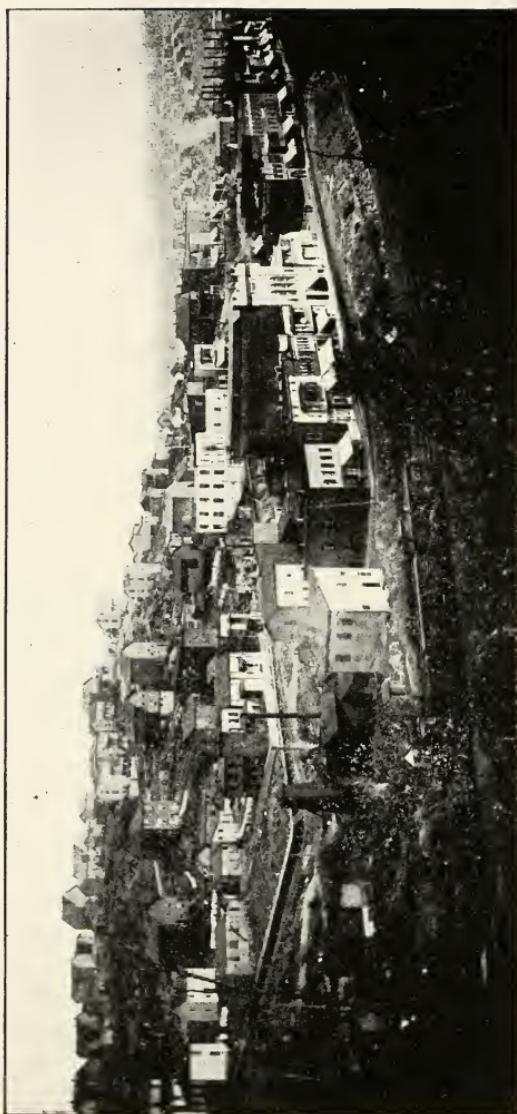
WESTERN MARYLAND PASSENGER TRAIN ENTERING THOMAS

Roster of Mayors

GEORGE MARTIN.....	Aug., 1892 to Feb., 1893.
O. H. HOFFMAN.....	Feb., 1893 to Feb., 1894
E. J. NOONE.....	Feb., 1894 to Feb., 1895.
G. W. McINTIRE.....	Feb., 1895 to Feb., 1896.
J. T. GALLIGER.....	Feb., 1896 to Feb., 1897
W. A. JONES.....	Feb., 1897 to Feb., 1899.
O. M. NEARHOOD.....	Feb., 1899 to Feb., 1900.
E. P. DURKIN.....	Feb., 1900 to Feb., 1901.
O. M. NEARHOOD.....	Feb., 1901 to Apr., 1901.
D. F. CLOSE.....	Apr., 1901 to July, 1901.
W. A. JONES.....	July, 1901 to Feb., 1903.
R. R. MACVETTIE.....	Feb., 1903 to Feb., 1905.
O. M. NEARHOOD.....	Feb., 1905 to Feb., 1906.
W. A. JONES.....	Feb., 1906 to ——————

Thomas Postmasters

WILLIAM McGAN,	JAS. DAUGHENBAUGH,
W. A. FEELY,	G. M. MCINTIRE,
A. L. HELMICK,	MRS. A. L. HELMICK,
A. C. HELMICK,	



A SECTION OF THOMAS

Thomas Today

In the brief outline of events that are sketched in this book of Thomas' short history and her quick evolution from a settlement in a hunter's log camp to the present hustling little coal city crowned with prosperity, we simply record what is becoming more and more characteristic of America today—doing things and doing them now.

What Thomas has been in the past and what she may hope to be in the future has been and will continue to be largely influenced by her healthful climate, railroad facilities, forests of soft and hard timbers, and her fine seams of soft coal.

Thomas is situated at the door of the Eastern Panhandle of the State, just west of the divide that separates the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, by way of the Potomac, from those of the Gulf of Mexico, by way of the Cheat, Monongahela, and Mississippi; and is 78 miles south-west of Cumberland, Maryland, 35 miles north-east of Elkins, and scarcely more than 200 miles by rail from the State capital. With daily passenger trains over the Western Maryland Railroad connecting with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at Piedmont, Keyser, Cumberland, and Belington, and with the Coal & Coke Railway at Elkins, and with the Chesapeake & Ohio at Durbin, it is easily accessible from North or South, East or West.

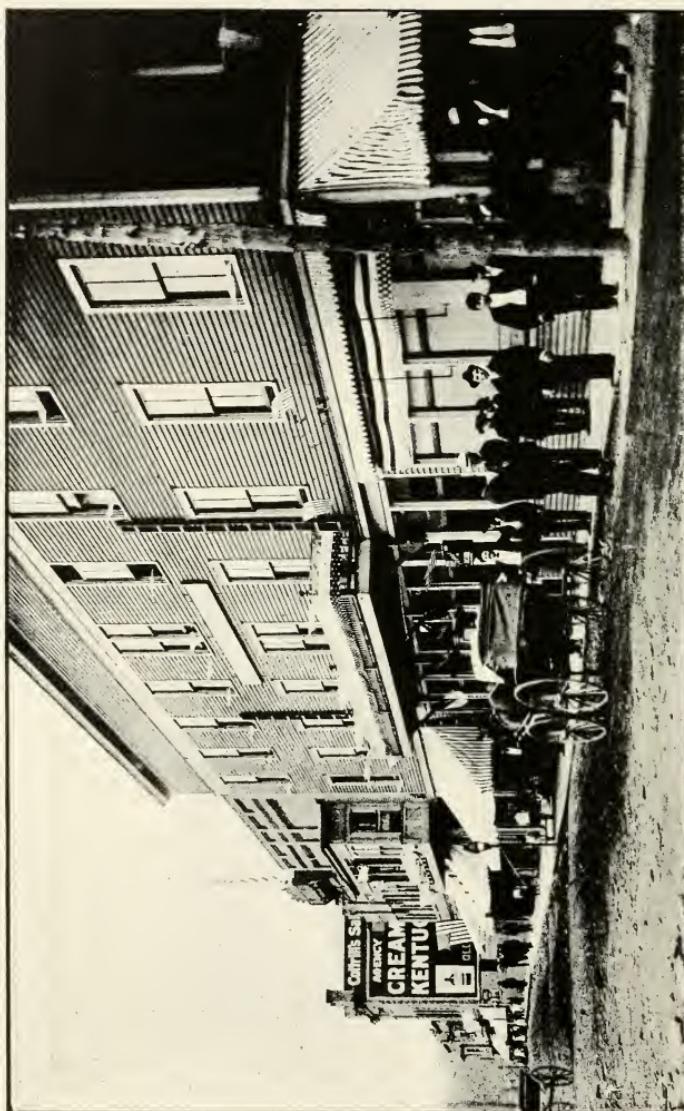
The life of Thomas largely depends upon her coal industry, and what could be better. Of coal mining it has been said: "It employs more men, puts in circulation more money, uses more agencies, blesses more homes, involves more details, and touches more interests than any other occupation," and a knowledge of Thomas proves the truth of the quotation.

The municipal affairs of Thomas, for the most part, have been wisely and efficiently regulated. Some of her citizens have complained of unwarranted slowness on the part of the town authorities to push with more vigor measures of improvement for the public welfare, but a careful study of the subject shows that the municipal leaders have always aimed at procuring tangible and permanent results and have avoided the rash errors of costly experiments.

The town owns its own water system, and the water is cool, pure, and sparkling, being pumped from large mountain wells.

Streets and houses are lighted by electricity furnished from the Davis Coal & Coke Company's plant.

As yet, coal only has been used for fuel, but the town has recently granted right of way to the West Virginia Central Gas Company, and it is only a matter of a few months until natural gas will be plentiful.



A BUSINESS STREET OF THOMAS

POPULATION.

The population of Thomas approximates four thousand, and this number is being constantly augmented and increased. The character of the population is truly cosmopolitan, sons and daughters of almost every country and clime being numbered among her citizens. In no



R. D. BENEDETTO'S BUILDING

place will you meet a more hospitable or warmer hearted people. Here a man is judged according to his intrinsic value, and not weighed in the golden balance, but rises and falls upon his own merits.

HEALTHFULNESS.

Situated on a plateau of the Alleghenies, 3,000 feet above tide water, Thomas is one of the most healthfully and picturesquely situated towns in the Allegheny section. The absolute freedom from malaria, owing to the unexcelled natural drainage of the country, and its situation too far south to be reached by the extreme cold of the north, and too far above sea level for the enervating heat of the South, gives Thomas the

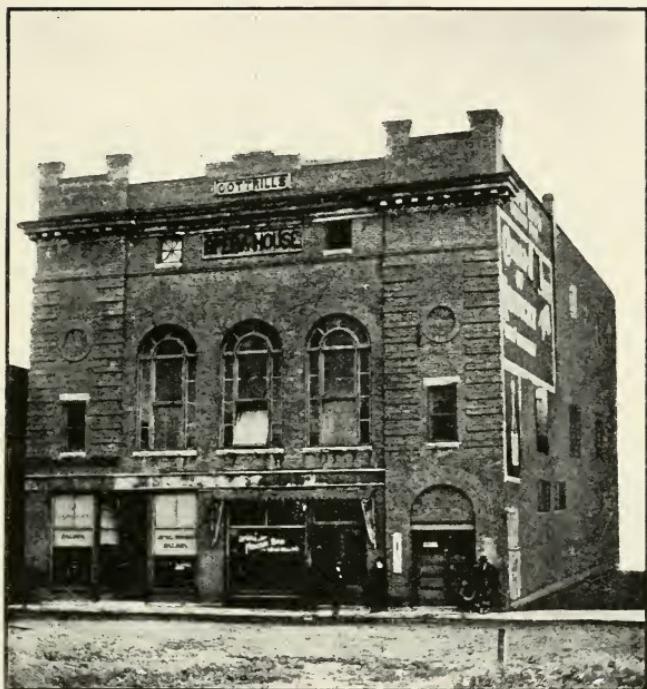
right to be called the best all year residence town in the country. But few places in America can be found with the same climatic advantages and scenic beauty as this God-favored section.

STORES, SHOPS, ETC.

The town is well equipped with stores and shops, and for its population, of unusual size and attractiveness. In them can be found all that humanity could desire in the way of merchandise. Some of the most important interests are: The Buxton & Landstreet Company, general merchandise; G. M. McIntire, Son & Company, hardware; C. M. Metheny, jeweler; H. F. E. Hinebaugh, general merchandise; W. G. Hiller, merchant tailor; G. Schatz, dry goods, gent's and ladies' furnishings; Nettie Anglen, millinery; J. A. Eberle, meat market; W. A. Jones, general merchandise; J. Schilansky, dry goods, ladies' and gents' furnishings; R. D. Benedetto, general merchandise; Wm. E. Tolmie, paint and wall paper; O. H. Hoffman, druggist; Thomas George, hardware; P. H. Cornelius, dry goods; J. W. Duncan, funeral director; Bear & Gerstein, combination dry goods and harness; H. Balsar, dry goods; L. V. Davis, barber; A. M. Topper, barber; C. Doubles, restaurant; B. S. Saterfield, restaurant; C. W. Young, restaurant; R. E. L. Breedlove, general merchandise; Mike Bullick, general merchandise; Thomas Lochiner, general merchandise; B. Rubenstein, grocery and meat market; Joe DePolo, grocery; W. G. Helmick, grocery; Luigi DeCicco, fruits, etc.

HOTELS.

First-class hotels stand for an energetic town and a social population. Of these Thomas has two—The Hotel Metropolitan, M. P. McLaughlin & Co., lessees, and the Mountain View Hotel, J. B. Murray, proprietor. Both of these hotels are large and give excellent service. The Mountain View Hotel has just been opened since the first of the year (1906) and is one of the best furnished hotels to be found in this section.



COTTRILL OPERA HOUSE, EAST AVENUE

Banking

An account of "Thomas Today" would be incomplete without mention of her financial institutions. She has not made the mistake of trying to support a number of banks before her population and business justifies, and as yet, has but one bank. The Miners & Merchants' Bank is therefore a strong institution. While run on a conservative basis, as far as consistent with its welfare and the welfare of its depositors, the bank is noted for its liberality and progressiveness. No inconsiderable business is done in Thomas by the First National Bank of Davis, through its Thomas representative, Mr. C. H. Lantz.

MINERS & MERCHANTS BANK.

ORGANIZATION.

A. R. STALLINGS, President.

H. F. E. HINEBAUGH, Vice President.

GEO. T. LARGENT, Cashier.

CLYDE L. SCHOOLEY, Assistant Cashier.

DIRECTORS.

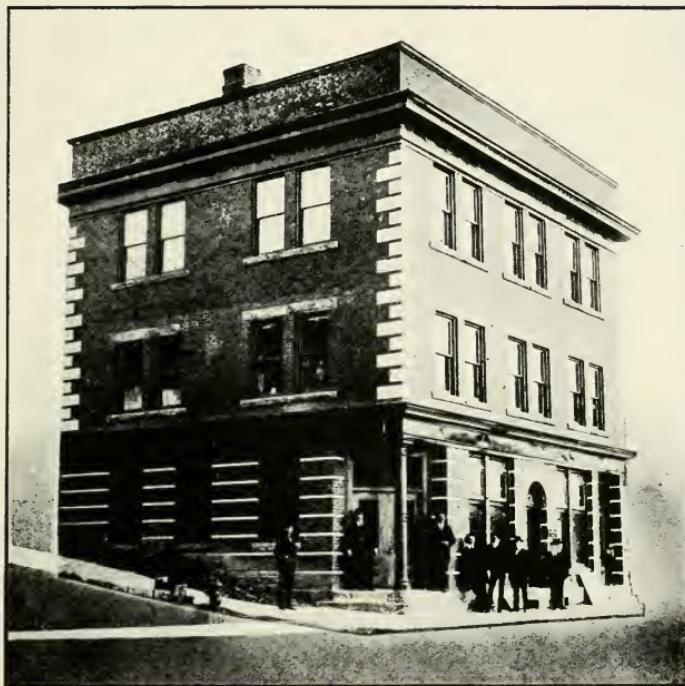
F. S. LANDSTREET, J. P. HILL,

J. F. HEALY, HIRAM COTTRILL,

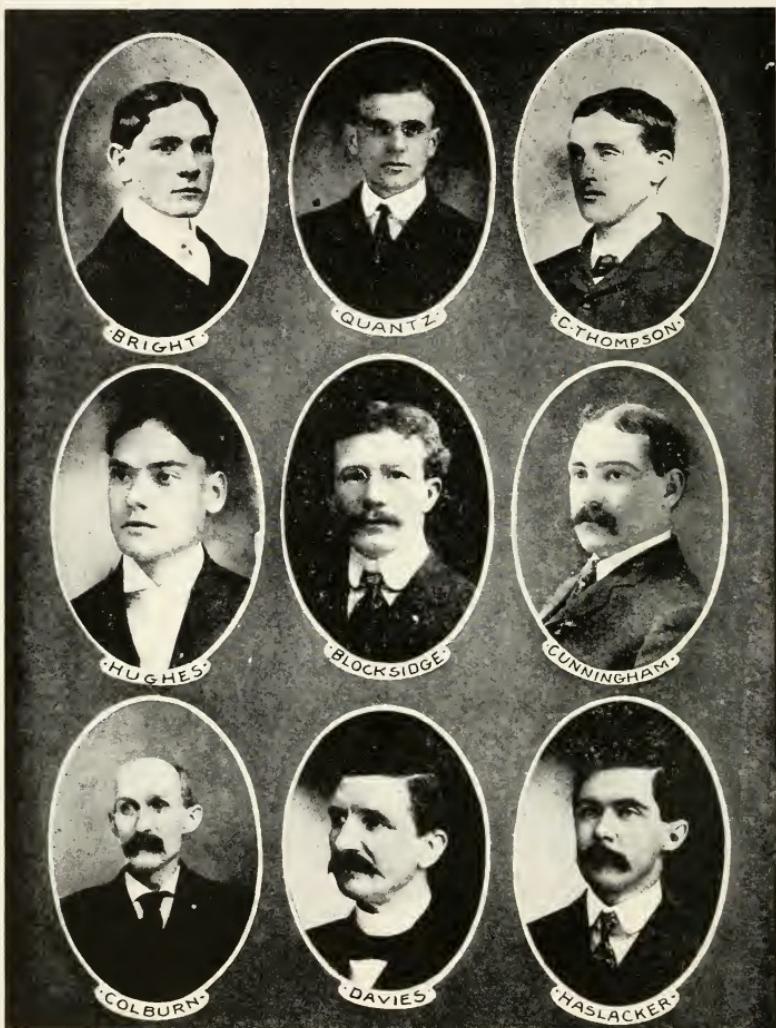
A. R. STALLINGS, R. D. HEIRONIMUS,

H. F. E. HINEBAUGH, JOSEPH VERZI,

W. L. WERNER.



MINERS AND MERCHANTS BANK BUILDING



A GROUP OF DAVIS COAL AND COKE CO. OFFICE EMPLOYEES

The Davis Coal and Coke Company

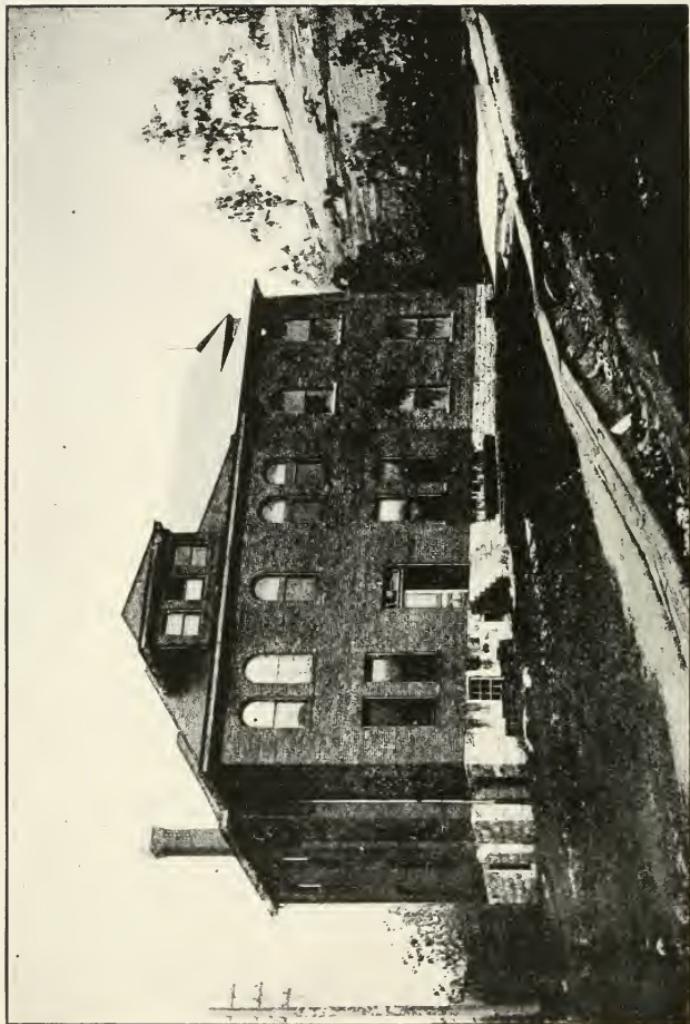
In 1884 some prospectors employed by H. G. Davis & Bro. discovered the Davis or Kittanning seam of coal near Thomas, W. Va.; in the same year a small mine was opened near Pendleton Run, between Thomas and Davis, and the coal shipped into the general market in the same year.

The Thomas mine now called No. 23, at Thomas, W. Va., was opened and operations were started in the Thomas or Freeport seam of coal by the West Virginia Central Ry. Company. Owing probably to want of proper handling by the consumers, the Thomas coal did not prove satisfactory and the mine was closed in 1885. In 1886 H. G. Davis and Brother took possession of the Thomas mine by purchase of equipment from the railroad company, and continued to operate the same. In the same year the above company and Hon. S. B. Elkins formed a partnership for the purpose of opening the Davis coal at a point about a mile south of Thomas, at what is now known as Coketon, W. Va. In September of the same year the mine known as Davis mine No. 1, now No. 35, Coketon, was opened on Ewing tract of 1690 acres, owned by H. G. Davis and Brother, and 22,400 tons of coal were shipped into the general market that year.

In 1887 the company enlarged its operations at this mine, and built two coke ovens for the purpose of testing the coking qualities of the coal. Owing to the very depressed condition of business very little was done at this colliery during the year, but the coal was found to be an excellent coking, steam and smithing coal.

In 1888 the firm of Davis Bros. & Elkins decided to reorganize and incorporate the company, for the purpose of better handling their interests, and increasing the business of mining, coking and shipping Davis coal. Accordingly on January 17, 1889, Messrs. H. G. Davis, T. B. Davis, S. B. Elkins, H. G. Buxton, F. S. Landstreet, and W. J. Armstrong, met at Piedmont, W. Va., and organized the Davis Coal & Coke Company, the capital of the corporation being \$16,000 with the privilege of enlarging the same from time to time to \$250,000. The above named gentlemen were elected directors of the new company. On the same day the directors elected Col. T. B. Davis, President, Major W. J. Armstrong, Secretary, Mr. W. H. Gorman, Treasurer. The principal office was established at Piedmont, and a sales office was opened in Baltimore, and the company purchased all the mine equipment and improvements at the Davis No. 1 mine, and on February 23, 1889, leased from H. G. Davis and Bro., S. B. Elkins, H. D. Elkins and the heirs of W. R. Davis, all the Davis coal underlying certain lands owned by them in Tucker county, W. Va., and a surface right to about 40 acres of ground surrounding said Davis mine. These tracts comprised a total of about 2,400 acres.

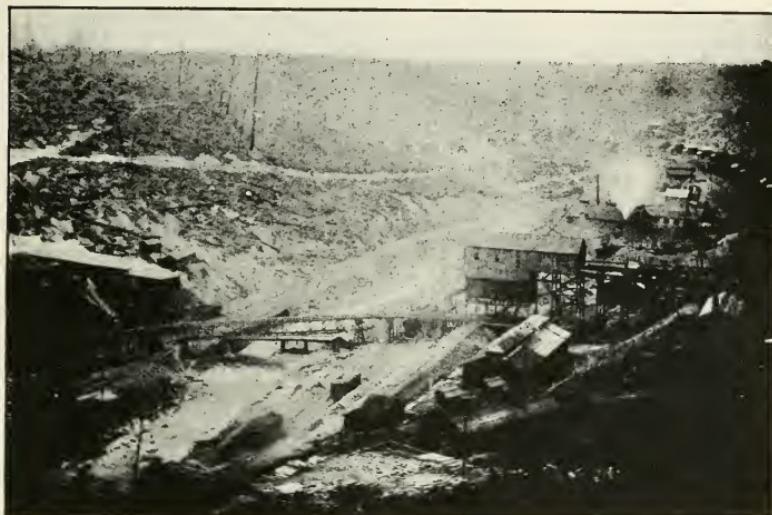
After the re-organization of the company large numbers of improvements were made for the purpose of enlarging the collieries, such as building tenement houses, tipples and coke ovens.



OFFICE BUILDING, DAVIS COAL AND COKE CO.

In January, 1892, the Company leased from the Fairfax Coal & Coke Co., all the Davis coal on the Brown tract of 1,647 acres, and at the same time leased from the H. G. Davis Coal Company all the Thomas and Davis coal under 788 acres of the Ewing tract, under the same date. At a meeting of the directors in January, 1893, a proposition was made to consolidate the interests of the Davis Coal & Coke Co. with several other companies operating on the line of the West Virginia Central Ry., and the president was authorized to make such consolidation.

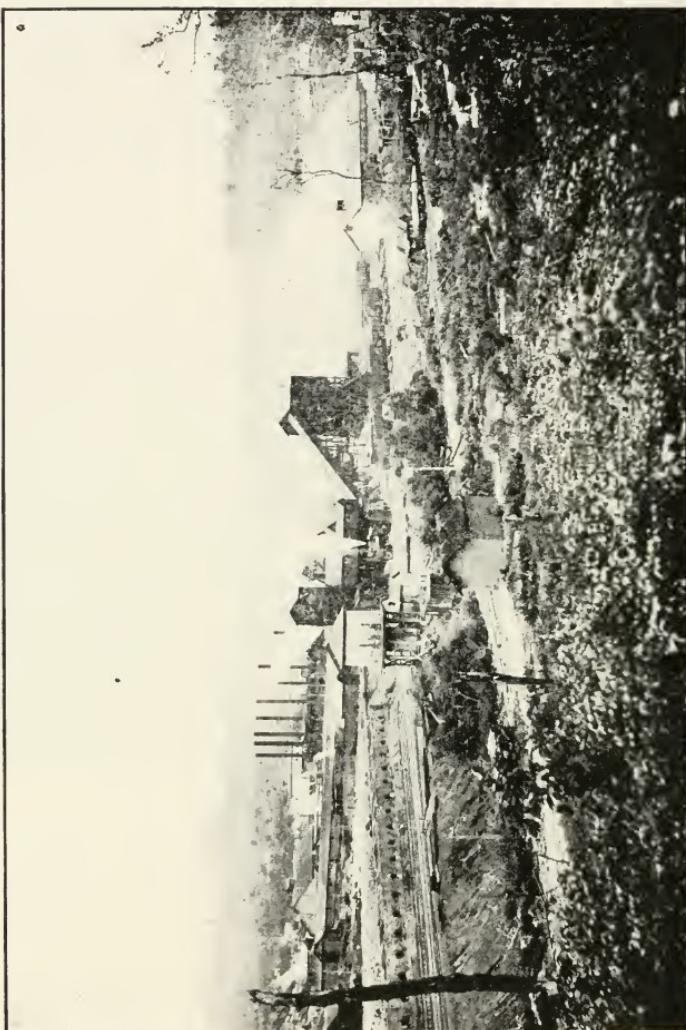
On May 6, 1893, the capital stock of the Company was increased to \$3,000,000, and a new certificate was secured from the Secretary of State of West Virginia, enlarging the powers of the Company so as to enable it to acquire the stock of other Companies.



DAVIS COAL AND COKE CO.'S COKETON COLLERY

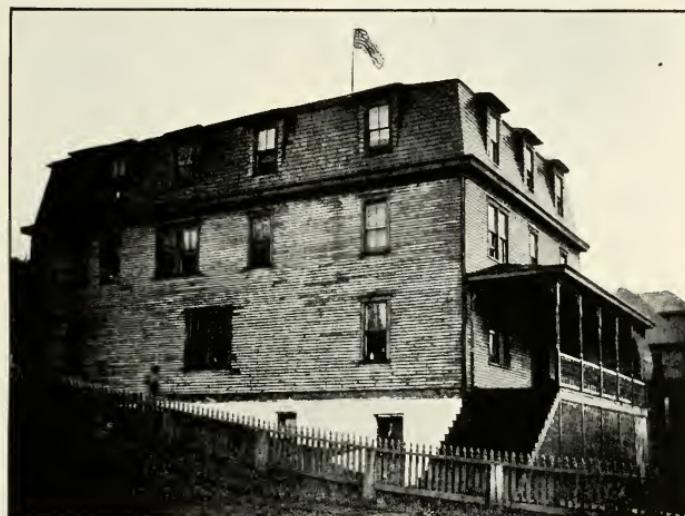
In July, 1893 the Davis Coal & Coke Co. absorbed the Davis & Elkins, and the Fairfax Coal & Coke Companies, and the Henry Coal & Coke Co., and in February, 1894 the Company acquired possession of the Jefferson Coal & Coke Co., and all the Franklin property. From these small beginnings the Davis Coal & Coke Co., which may almost be said to be a national institution, has grown.

The Company now owns over 100,000 acres of coal lands along the line of the West Virginia Central Ry. alone, located in the counties of Mineral, Grant, Tucker, Barbour, Randolph and Taylor; it has large producing collieries at West Virginia Junction, Elk Garden and vicinity, Henry, Thomas, Coketon, Weaver and Simpson, and has an output under favorable circumstances of 8,000 tons per day.



DAVIS COAL AND COKE CO.'S THOMAS COLLERY

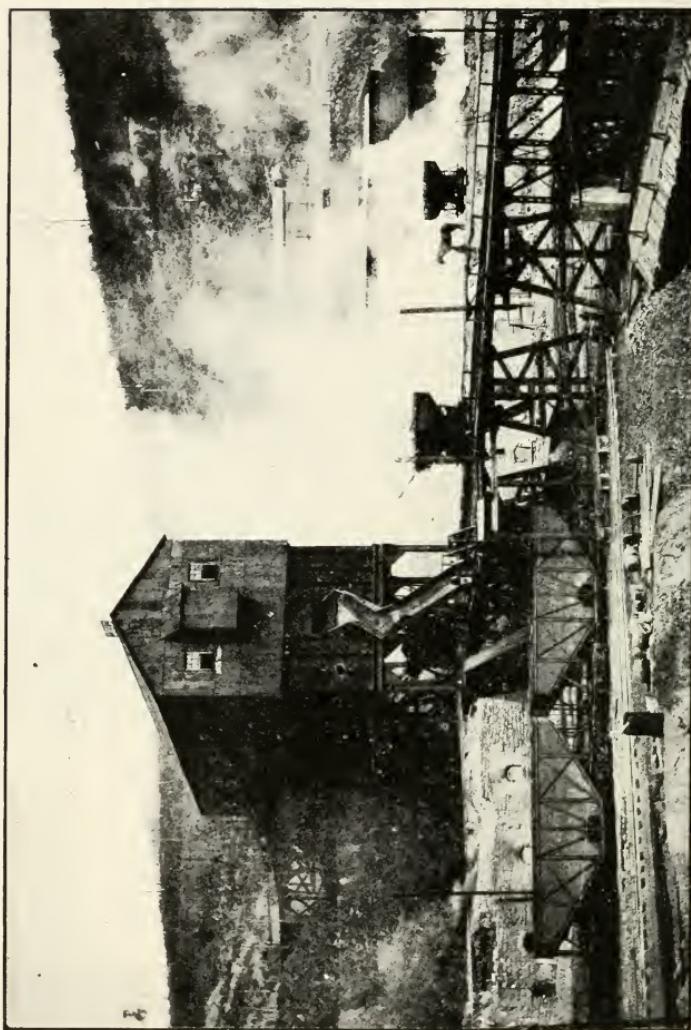
The town of Thomas has always been considered and is now the central and most important point of the operations of this Company. Within a radius of one mile of the Company's offices at Thomas there are seven producing mines with an output of 4,000 tons per day, and about 570 coke ovens. This Company is opening up mines at various points every year, and its operations have become so large that it is always ready and willing to employ every man who asks for employment and who is worthy of the same; while it pays as high wages as any company in the state, and furnishes steadier employment than almost any other company in the country.



CLUB HOUSE—DAVIS COAL AND COKE CO.

The little mining town of Thomas continues to be practically the Hub of these operations. It has agencies for the sale of its product established in all the important cities of the continent, presided over by managers, many of whom were formerly located at Thomas, in the capacity of clerks, and in other positions. When these managers desire to show their clients the real size and importance of the Company they always bring them to Thomas. In this way the town has been advertised by the Davis Coal & Coke Co., from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and practically from the Arctic Circle to Cape Horn. It is doubtful if any purely coal mining town on the continent has ever become so well known.

The patrons on coming to Thomas, not only see a large output, but they see it mined and handled with modern equipment. The mining operations in and around Thomas, above referred to, and the town itself

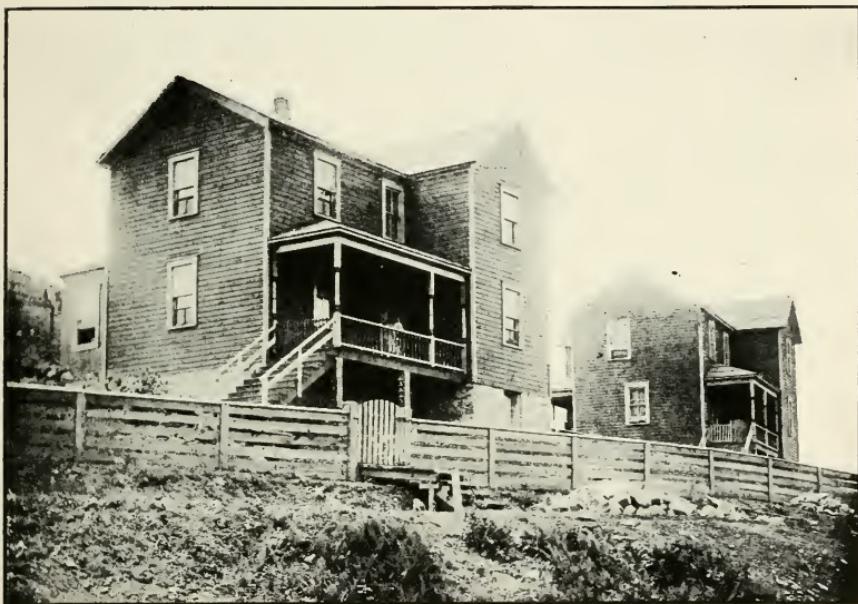


DAVIS COAL AND COKE CO.'S NO. 36 TIPPLE, COKETON COLLIERY

are furnished power from two large and well equipped electric plants. While they are situated at some distance apart, they are connected and the currents from both may be used interchangeably.

The company owns and operates its own telephone system, which not only has connection with all parts of its mining operations, but with Elkins, W. Va., and Cumberland, Md., as well.

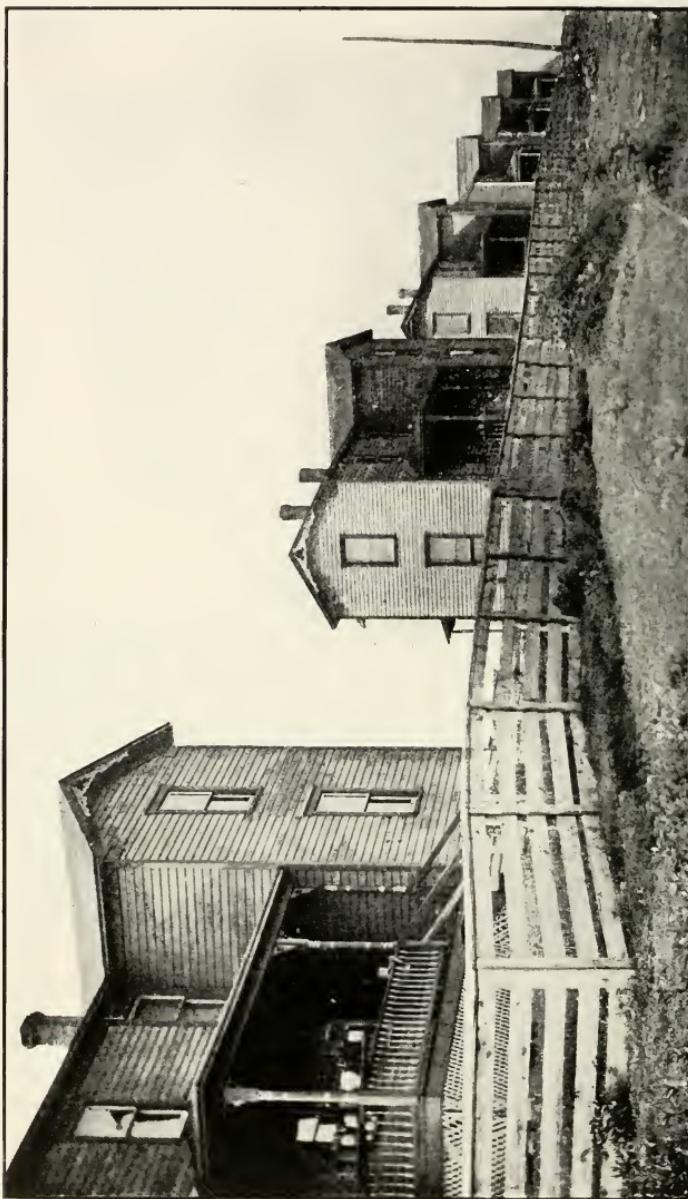
At Thomas alone, house accommodation (samples of which are found herein) for those not owning their own property, is furnished over 400 families. Few companies are so kindly disposed toward their employes. Every one is given a chance, and if he has the "stuff" in him, whether he be foreman, clerk, or miner, he will not want for a place to use his abilities to his own profit.



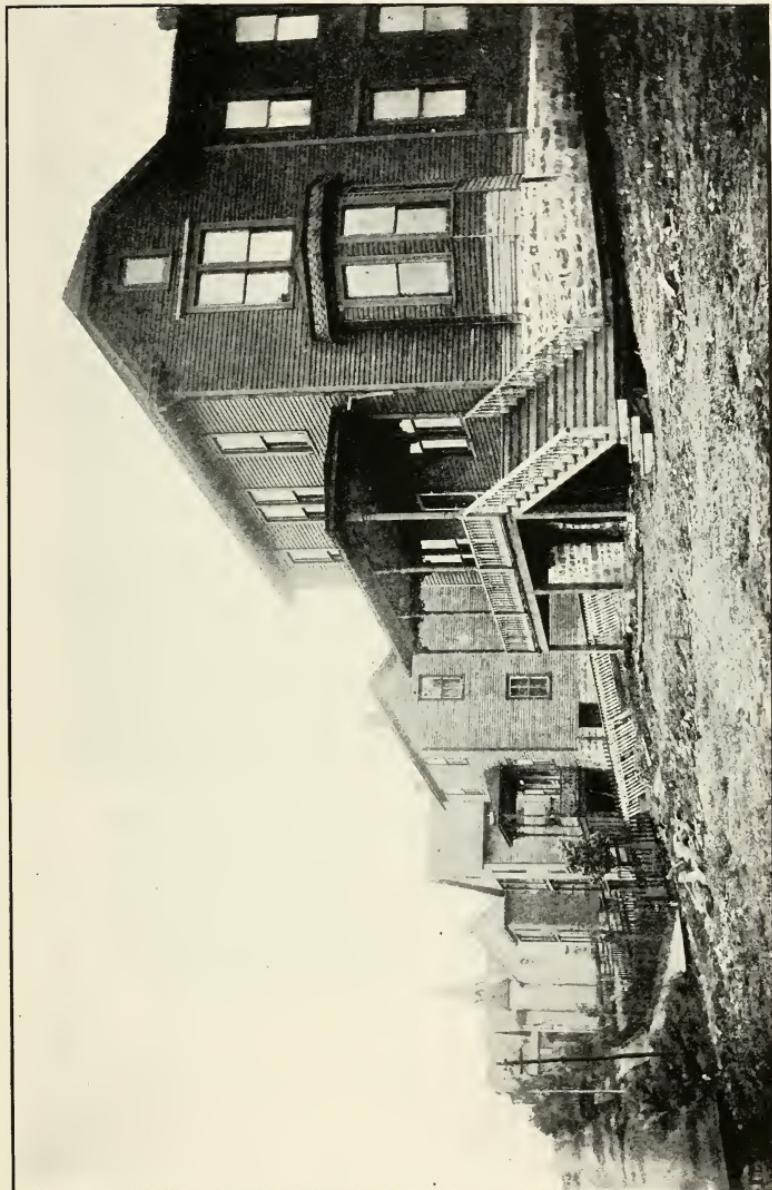
DAVIS COAL AND COKE CO.'S DWELLINGS

About thirteen hundred men are employed, and the monthly pay roll often reaches \$70,000 to \$75,000. Any proposition for the betterment of the town or the advancement of her people finds a hearty supporter in the Davis Coal & Coke Company.

Its business at the present time is looked after by a President, Vice-President, General Manager, General Sales Agent, General Superintendent and nine local Superintendents, together with over 100 clerks, foremen and other office employes.



DAVIS COAL AND COKE CO.'S DWELLINGS, EUCLID AVENUE



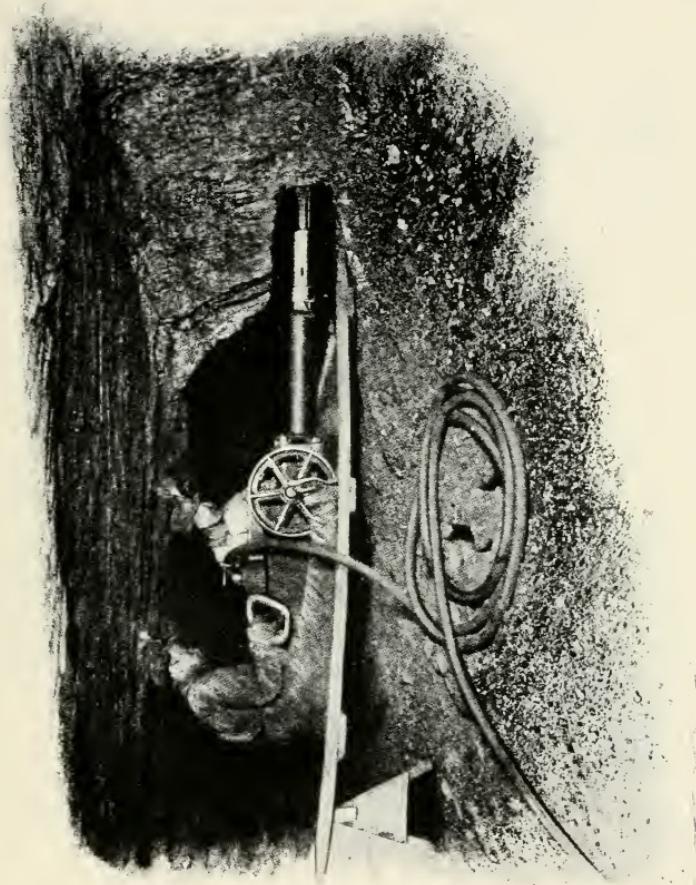
BROWN STREET, SHOWING DAVIS COAL AND COKE CO.'S RESIDENCES

It is interesting to note that Mr. F. S. Landstreet, one of the original incorporators of the Company, is now not only President of the Company, but also Vice-President of the Western Maryland Railroad Company, into which the West Virginia Central Railroad has been recently merged. It is also interesting to note that Mr. T. B. Davis, Jr., a son of one of the original members of the Company, and who spent many years of his earlier life in and around Thomas, in the employment of the said Company, has now become its Vice-President; that Mr. J. C. Brydon, one of the very earliest employes of the Company, is now its



A DAVIS COAL AND COKE CO. DWELLING

General Manager, and that Major W. J. Armstrong is still its Paymaster. And as further showing the stamp of the men who were the originators of the Company, and the builders of the town of Thomas, it may be said that Hon. H. G. Davis still owns and controls as much land as the Davis Coal & Coke Co. owns, and more miles of railroad than the original West Virginia Central railroad; that Hon. S. B. Elkins probably controls nearly as much coal land and nearly as much railroad, and that Col. Thomas B. Davis, after whom the town was named, was quite recently elected to congress as a democrat from this district, which is overwhelmingly republican, and has very extensive interests throughout the state.



MINING COAL WITH COMPRESSED AIR—DAVIS COAL AND COKE CO.

Churches

Thomas Methodist Episcopal Church

True to the aggressive characteristic of Methodism, her preachers were early in the field of Thomas. The first sermon preached in the town was delivered on the platform of the railroad depot by a Methodist Episcopal minister.

All denominations being few in number, joined together and built the first church, which passed into the possession of the M. E. church. At that time, 1893, this appointment belonged to the Parsons charge and only had preaching once or twice a month.

Names officially associated with the early days of our church are Rev. Jones, W. A. Rodeheaver, James Newcum, A. L. Helmick, J. T. Dunlap, C. W. McIntire, William Close, Dr. William Werner, and Rev. E. A. Davis.

The town grew rapidly and the demands of the people were continually for more frequent religious service. In the beginning of 1899 Miss Appollonia Walters, a lady evangelist, came to the town under the direction of Dr. L. W. Roberts, presiding elder. For eight weeks she labored in a revival with encouraging results.

With many of the new converts joining the church, the demand for greater pastoral care came effectually before the presiding elder. Rev. S. K. Arbuthnot, D. D., had about this time been discharged from the chaplaincy of the First West Virginia Regiment of the Spanish-American war. The presiding elder secured Dr. Arbuthnot to come to Thomas and serve from April 1, 1899, to October 1, 1899. On April 1, 1899, Thomas became a district charge, being taken from the Parsons charge. This action was confirmed by the next Annual Conference, when Thomas charge made its initial in the Annual Conference minutes.

SECOND PASTORATE.

At the Annual Conference of 1899, Rev. Daniel Westfall was appointed by Bishop Cyrus D. Foss to this field. He came from a parsonage of eight rooms. Here he found no parsonage. Mr. H. E. Rexroad and wife kindly gave the "new preacher" and his family a part of their house-room for eight months. In that time

A PARSONAGE

of nine rooms was built, largely furnished, and a little later was occupied by the preacher and his family. The brothers constituting the building committee were Lee Ott, J. T. Dunlap, and Thomas George.

The parsonage and present church lot were secured from Hon. H. G. Davis, president of the Davis Coal & Coke Company. By persistent diligence the parsonage, costing nearly \$1,500.00 was paid for—a thing



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

thought to be impossible by many—and a small fund was left in the committee's hands.

The town having built away from the church, which stood across the creek from the town, and extensive railroad yards being built between it and the main town which rendered crossing very dangerous, it was decided that we build a

NEW CHURCH.

Brothers Arthur Stuart, J. T. Dunlap, Wm. J. Christopher, Thomas George and Simon Sowers constituted the building committee.

On the 21st of June, 1903, a splendid two-story church building was dedicated by Dr. C. W. Smith of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. The church cost more than \$4,000.00.

From an appointment of Parsons charge of 1899, paying \$75.00 salary per year, it is now in first rank of the appointments in Oakland District, and pays more per capita than any church of the District for church support.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Arthur Stuart,	Wm. Vansickle,
J. T. Dunlap,	Simon Sowers,
A. E. Michael,	Sister Stella Nearhood,
Thomas George	Sister Ambee Rexroad,
	Sister Emma Lynch.

PASTORS FILLING THIS TERRITORY.

A Rev. Jones,	H. E. Friend.
E. A. Davis,	C. W. Cox,
Arthur Chambers,	S. K. Arbuthnot.
	Daniel Westfall.

PRESIDING ELDERS OVER THIS FIELD SINCE ITS OPENING.

N. L. Baumgardner,	L. W. Roberts, D. D.
R. B. Ward, D. D.	

Prosperity to this Zion and Friendship in her battles.

DANIEL WESTFALL, Pastor.



METHODIST EPISCOPAL PARSONAGE

St. Thomas' Roman Catholic Church

A number of the first people to make their home in Thomas were of the Catholic faith; the number continually increased and in 1893 the congregation numbered one hundred. At this time a church was begun on their lot at the corner of Brown and Third streets, the lot being donated by the Davis Coal & Coke Company. In a short time the church was brought to that state of completion where services could be held therein, but the entire fixtures, pews, etc., were not furnished until 1896. Prior to the erection of this church, services were first conducted at private residences, the school building, and later in a union church.

Some of those most active in the raising of funds for the erection of this, their first church, were E. J. Noone, J. T. Gallagher, James Noone, Mr. and Mrs. John Curran, Mrs. James Daughenbaugh, Mrs. J. J. Higgins, Mrs. D. J. Moran, Patrick Moran and others.

In the great fire of 1901 the church and parochial residence, just erected, were destroyed. Funds were again collected and the buildings now in use were erected. The church is a very large one, having a seating capacity of several hundred, and the parochial residence is both commodious and modern.

The congregation now numbers at least two thousand—too many for the present church, yet as a rule there are two services every Sunday, giving everyone an ample opportunity to attend.

This parish is in the diocese of Wheeling, presided over by Bishop P. J. Donohue. Pastors serving this parish in order of their service are as follows: Rev. Patrick Boyce, Rev. Ferdinand Haimann, Rev. Camille Deloux, Rev. Ferdinand Koukolevitch, and associated with the latter is Rev. F. Baccaro.



CATHOLIC CHURCH AND PARSONAGE

St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church

One of the first Methodist preachers to come to Thomas was a Rev. Mr. Cooper, a member of the Baltimore Annual Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The first organized church work ever done in Thomas was by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, under the ministry of Rev. E. B. Jones, of the Western Virginia Conference, who took steps to secure funds for the erection of a church building. Some money was collected, but was diverted to the building of the Union Church. This church was afterwards sold, the Methodist Church, South, realizing nothing from the sale.

Previous to the erection of this church building, a Sunday School was organized, and, in lieu of a church, the school building was used. This school has continued unbroken save for the winter of 1900-01, when the superintendent was away. This school has never changed superintendents. The Sunday School when first organized, being the first one in the vicinity, was attended by all denominations and creeds, and is yet to some extent. From this first school have developed others of different denominations, yet the membership of the original school has largely increased.

In 1892 a church was built in Coketon, not far from the old Coketon depot. In order to gain a more central location for the membership, this church was sold to the board of education for school purposes, and a handsome and commodious building was erected by the side of the Central School building. This church was completed and dedicated in July, 1905.

Several different pastors have served here, who are remembered by many with the highest regards. Also, the presiding elders who came into our midst in these years are remembered kindly.

The membership of the church is of a substantial class of people, kind hearted, friendly and generous. The hand of welcome is ever extended to strangers and any who may desire to worship with us. All are cordially invited to attend the services of this church.

WALTER M. GIVEN, Pastor.



CENTRAL SCHOOL BUILDING AND M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH

Presbyterian Church

The first Presbyterian church organization effected in the town of Thomas was in the early part of 1900, when Rev. R. W. Carter, pastor of the Davis Presbyterian Church, at Davis, West Virginia, organized the Thomas Presbyterian Church and continued to serve it as pastor until his death, May 7, 1903. Names connected with the church's earliest history were Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Hassinger, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Feely, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Russell, Miss Carrie McKee and James Jennings.

While plans for a church were being perfected and during the building of the church, services were held in the town hall. Early in the spring of 1901, the church, which stands on the corner of First and Brown streets, was completed and dedicated.

After the death of Rev. R. W. Carter, Rev. Engle, pastor of the Parsons Presbyterian church at Parsons, West Virginia, served as pastor for a few months when he was succeeded by Rev. B. H. Dupey.

Rev. Dupey resigned in the spring of this year, 1906, and at present the church is without a regular pastor.



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Protestant Episcopal Church

The first service held under the auspices of the Episcopal Church in Thomas was in the Cottrill opera house, July, 1902, by the Rev. James Logan Fish, pastor of the St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Davis, West Virginia.

After two services at the opera house, the Presbyterian Church opened its doors to them and a service once a month has been held since that time. The congregation is small, and as yet do not feel able to build a church. However, they have the refusal of a beautiful lot on the corner of First and Brown streets, and will, perhaps, build in the near future.

Pastor, Rev. James Logan Fish, Davis, West Virginia. Senior Bishop, Rev. G. W. Peterkin, D. D., LL. D., Parkersburg, West Virginia. Coadjutor Bishop, Rev. W. L. Gravatt, Charles Town, West Virginia.

The Colored Church

The spiritual wants of the colored population of Thomas are attended to by the Baptist Church. Being the only colored church, it is largely attended.



SUPT. L. S. M'DOWELL'S RESIDENCE (D. C. & C. CO.)

Schools

The Thomas Graded and High Schools

The first free school established in Thomas was in the fall of 1886. At this time and for four years afterwards no school house was owned by the district, but rooms were rented wherever they could be most conveniently secured. The teachers during this period, in order of their service were Mr. Hampton Werner, Miss Lily McNemar, Miss May Hepburn, and Mr. C. O. Strieby.

In the fall of 1890 under the direction of Dr. O. H. Hoffman, president of the board of education, a two roomed school building, being a part of the present Central school building, was erected and two teachers were employed, Mr. A. M. Cunningham being principal.

To meet the needs of a growing population, a wing, consisting of two rooms, was added in 1895, and a like addition was made in 1898. Five years later, the school becoming crowded again, the board of education built a one-room building in North Thomas and bought the old M. E. Church, South, in South Thomas, and converted it into a school house; these two buildings being now used for the accommodation of primary pupils.

Within the last two years many improvements have been made, and the Central Building, as it now stands, consists of six large rooms and a handsome office, besides the halls and basement. It is steam heated, electric lighted, fitted with a system of electric bells, plumbed for water, surrounded by a good iron fence, and twenty-one shade trees were added to the grounds this year.

In the fall of 1904, the grade work, under the directions of Principal T. Nutter, was divided into eight years and the high school course was arranged to cover three years. It is to the credit of all concerned that after the first three years they have had eight months school, and that they now furnish free text books to the pupils.

The school is well supplied with apparatus, and with a small appropriation from the board of education, but largely through the efforts of the teachers and pupils, a good library has been added.

At present the schools, including the colored one room school, which was established some years since, enrolls four hundred and fifty pupils and employs nine teachers.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

1905-6.

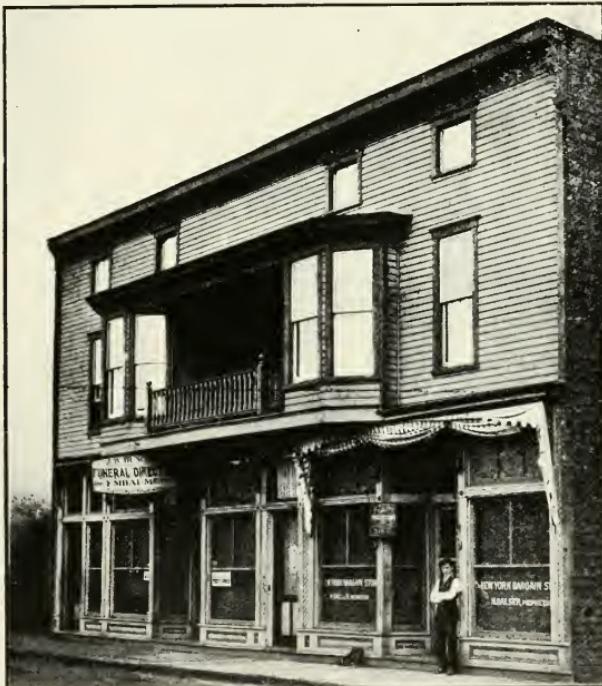
ARTHUR STUART, President.
HOMER CESSNA, Commissioner.
J. B. JENKINS, Commissioner.

TEACHERS—1905-6.

T. NUTTER, Supervising Principal.	MISS LOTTIE BROWN,
J. H. ROHRABAUGH,	MISS JOSEPHINE FOLEY,
MISS WILLYE IDLEMAN,	MISS LESLIE MCVEIGH,
MISS MERLE NELSON,	J. S. SHAVER.

PRINCIPALS OF THE THOMAS SCHOOLS.

A. M. CUNNINGHAM, 1890.	MISS LILY ELLIOTT, 1894.
UGENE MYERS, 1891.	A. E. MICHAEL, 1895-1898.
ELMER BOWERS, 1892.	F. F. FARNSWORTH, 1898.
S. H. McLANE, 1893.	A. E. MICHAEL, 1899-1904.
T. NUTTER, 1904, present time.	



J. W. DUNCAN'S STORE BUILDING AND RESIDENCE

Fraternal and Secret Orders

Thomas is truly a fraternal town, and in no place is the unfortunate cared for as here. We have said that a more hospitable or warmer hearted people could be found nowhere, and at least a part of this is attributable to its fraternal organizations. No man or woman can belong to one of these and live up—it may be only in part—to its principles, without being made better.

The following is a list of the now active orders, the membership of which numbers more than 1,000.

A. F. & A. M.	St. Stephen's Society
I. O. O. F.	Societa di Muto Sacco del W. Va. (Society of Mutual Help of W. Va.)
Encampment, I. O. O. F.	National Croatian Society, St. Nich- olas.
Rebekah, I. O. O. F.	Masons (Colored)
Knights of Pythias	Knights of Pythias (Colored)
Fraternal Order of Eagles	Court Selance, K. of P. (Colored)
Knights of the Modern Maccabees	True Reformers (Colored)
Sons of Lithuania	
St. John's Society	
St. Joseph's Society	

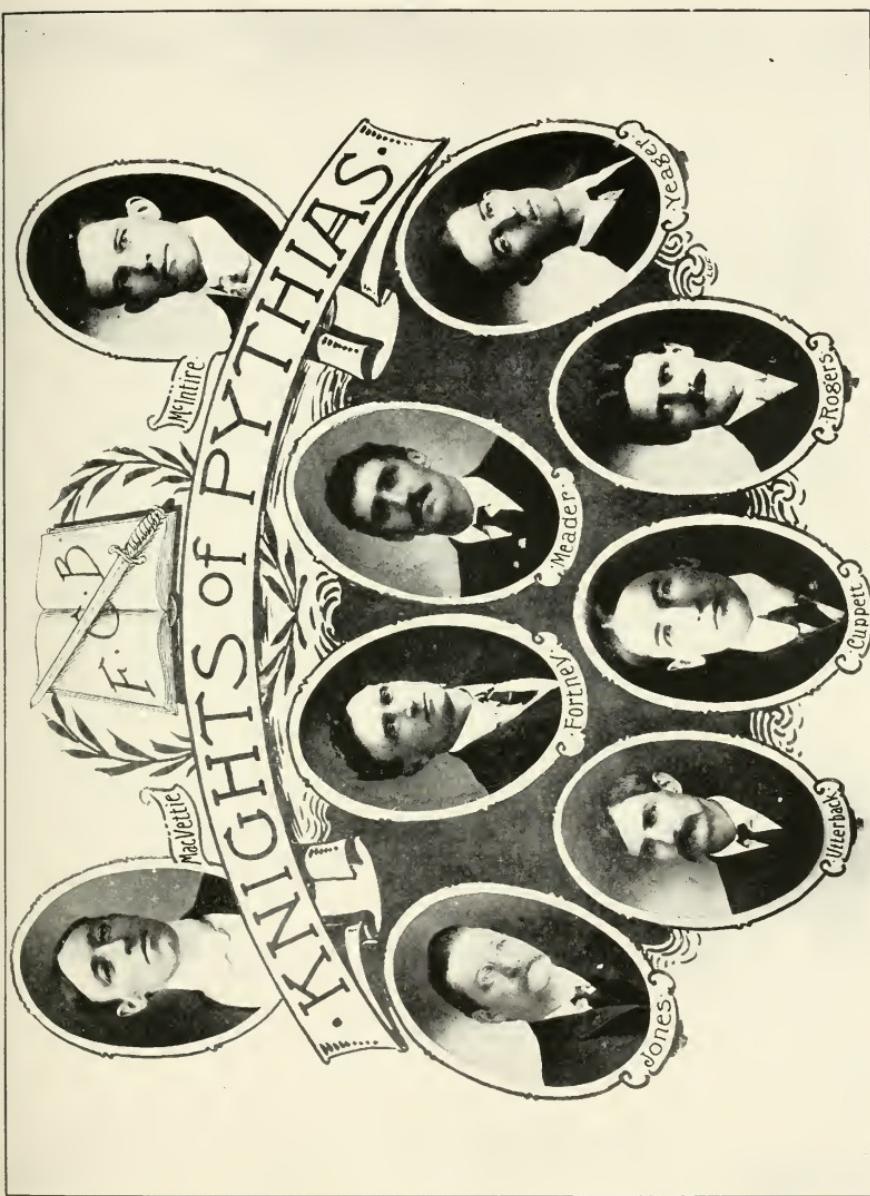
Fairfax Lodge, No. 58. Knights of Pythias

OFFICERS.

J. R. YEAGER, Chancellor Commander.
I. N. POST, Vice Chancellor.
WALTER ROGERS, Prelate.
M. N. UTTERBACK, Master of Work.
D. E. CUPPETT, Keeper of Records and Seal.
J. L. FORTNEY, Master of Finance.
W. A. JONES, Master of Exchequer.
JAMES DICE, Master at Arms.
C. E. MEADER, Inner Guard.
JOSEPH PROUD, Outer Guard.

TRUSTEES.

C. N. McINTIRE,
R. R. MACVETTIE.
I. N. POST.



A GROUP OF K. OF P. OFFICERS

Fairfax Lodge, No. 58, Knights of Pythias

Fairfax Lodge, No. 58, Knights of Pythias, was instituted in the town of Thomas February 14, 1891. This was the first of the now existing lodges to be established in Thomas. The charter membership was not large, but since the date of installation the lodge has pursued a policy of conservative expansion, and the present membership is something over one hundred. The Uniform Rank was established and enjoyed a period of prosperity up to the time of the great fire, 1901, at which time this rank lost practically all its property, and since that time has been dormant, although the charter has never been withdrawn.

Quite a large percentage of the brothers are connected with the endowment rank.

The lodge meets every Thursday evening.

OFFICERS ELECT TO BE INSTALLED JULY 1, 1906.

D. E. CUPRETT, Chancellor Commander.
 B. J. MARKS, Vice Chancellor.
 A. C. COX, Prelate.
 J. R. YEAGER, Master of Work.
 T. NUTTER, Keeper of Records and Seal.
 D. A. CLOSE, Inner Guard.
 EMIL JOHNSON, Outer Guard.
 JAMES DICE, Master at Arms.

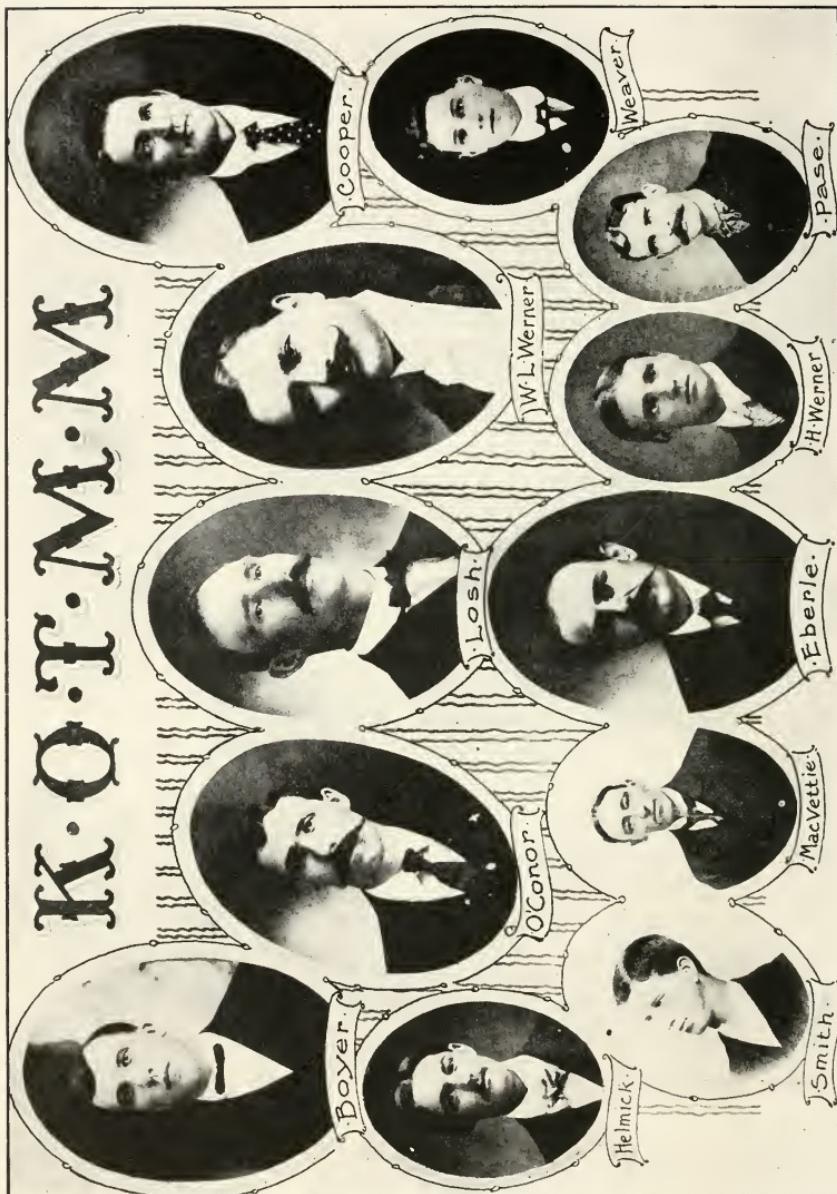
PAST CHANCELLORS.

J. O. PASE,	W. E. TOLMIE,	O. M. NEARHOOD,
G. B. DAVIS,	FRANK SINE,	W. L. WERNER,
ED. WINNING,	O. C. THOMAS,	L. H. PASE,
THOMAS GEORGE,	LEWIS SHAHAN,	H. M. KENDALL,
THOMAS GARDINER.	L. V. DAVIS,	C. N. MCINTIRE,
J. H. AGGLESON,	M. N. UTTERBACK,	
W. A. JONES,	J. L. FORTNEY,	

Knights of the Modern Maccabees, Tent No. 1065

OFFICERS.

R. R. MACVETTIE, Past Commander.
J. G. O'CONOR, Commander.
B. E. BOYER, Lieutenant Commander.
M. G. SMITH, Chaplain.
W. L. WEAVER, Sergeant.
ARTHUR COOPER, Master at Arms.
J. A. EBERLE, Finance Keeper.
L. H. PASE, Record Keeper.
W. L. ARNOLD, First Master of Guards.
HOWARD HELMICK, Second Master of Guards.
GEORGE LOSH, Sentinel.
J. A. NESTOR, Picket.
W. L. WERNER, Physician.
HARRY WERNER, Assistant to Physician.



Knights of the Modern Maccabees. Tent No. 1065

The Knights of the Modern Macabees teaches its members the principles of mutual help, organized benevolence, protection to each other, aid in misfortune while living, and the protection of their loved ones when dead. When old age with its infirmities and disabilities is marked by the dial of time (at seventy years) one twentieth of the certificate held is paid semi-annually for ten years to the member, if he lives, and any unpaid portion to his beneficiary, if he should not reach eighty years of age. Thus his declining years are made smooth, and his needs are cared for. It furnishes total and permanent disability benefits to its members, whether such disability is caused by sickness or accident, and it provides death benefits of five hundred, one thousand, fifteen hundred, and two thousand dollars, as the member may elect, payable to his beneficiaries at his death.

It includes in its ranks some of the most progressive, intelligent and representative people of the country. Its rank and file is made up of the best blood and sinew of the nation. It teaches fraternity, the love of home, God, country and mankind; it exemplifies the lessons of friendship, charity and loyalty in all relations of life; it has risen like a mighty monument to point the way to better living, purer life, broader brotherhood, and more perfect citizenship; it is one of the great armies in the nation's advancing factors of co-operation; it finds friends among the great classes that are looking for more social and fraternal bonds, and who desire to protect the orphan and provide for the widow.

Tent No. 1065 now has about eighty members, although organized only a few months.

THE LODGE.

Thomas Aerie No. 1013. Fraternal Order of Eagles

OFFICERS.

JOHN R. YEAGER, Senior Past Worthy President.

W. L. WERNER, Past Worthy President.

R. R. MACVETTIE, Worthy President.

J. W. GROSS, Worthy Vice President.

M. G. SMITH, Worthy Chaplain.

J. G. O'CONOR, Worthy Conductor.

A. B. BRIGHT, Worthy Secretary.

DAVID E. CUPPETT, Worthy Treasurer.

A. I. JENKINS, Inside Guard.

FRED SHAFFER, Outside Guard.

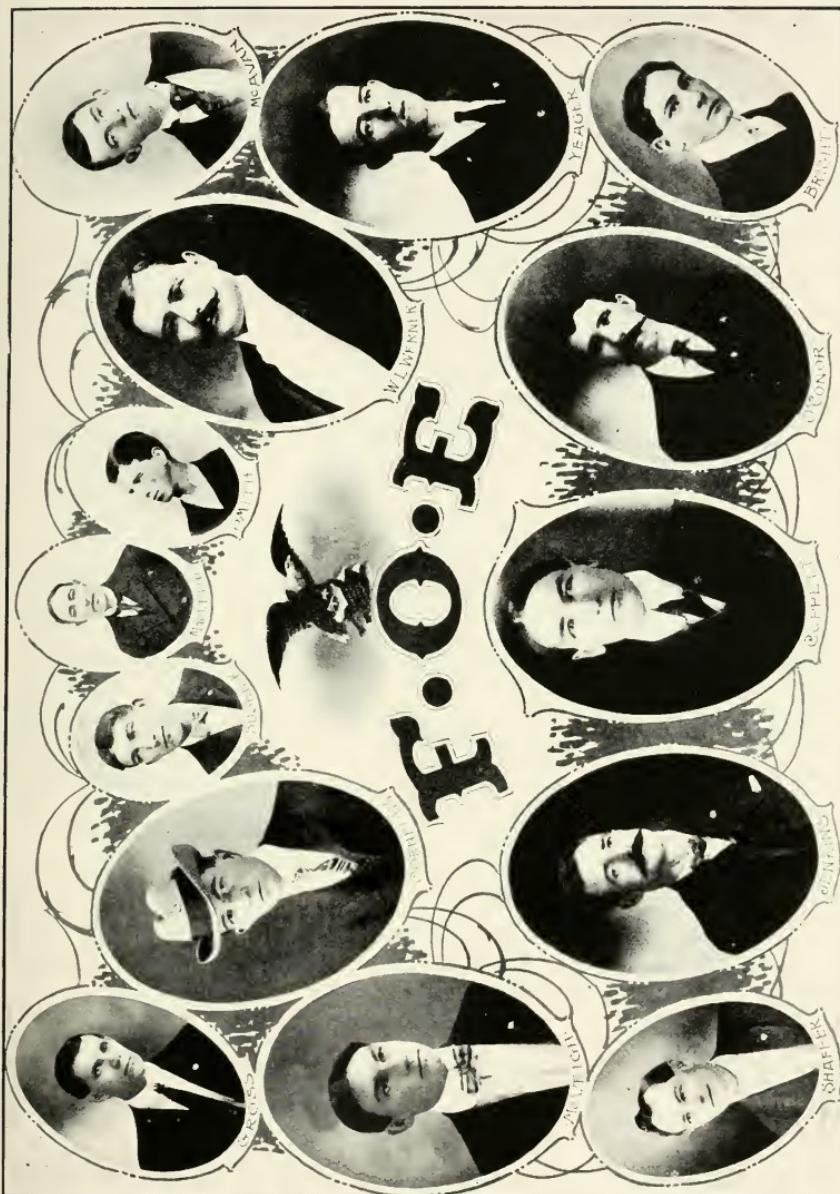
TRUSTEES.

P. H. CORNELIUS.

WILLIAM McVEIGH.

B. J. McAVAN.

JAS. BUSKIRK.



A GROUP OF EAGLE OFFICERS

Thomas Aerie, No. 1013, Fraternal Order of Eagles

Thomas Aerie No. 1013, Fraternal Order of Eagles, was instituted in the town of Thomas, March 15, 1905, by State Deputy McNabb of Wheeling. The order has enjoyed a period of continuous prosperity ever since its institution, and has a membership of which it feels justly proud. While the membership of the order is relatively large, (144), yet that care and discrimination has been exercised in the choosing of its members that has resulted in the securing of a body of thoroughly congenial and representative bunch of "Birds."

Twice during our short life, death has invaded our ranks, and we mourn the untimely deaths of Brother Ronald P. Boyer and Charles W. Miller.

THE LODGE.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL.

D. J. Hayes,	C. M. Dennison,	J. W. Cross,
A. L. Helmick,	G. W. Stilwell,	J. R. Yeager,
Julius Shaffer,	J. F. White,	Thomas George,
W. L. Werner,	Ralph M. Smith,	K. M. Waldron,
R. W. Daney,	L. H. Buzzell,	Jacob Hess.er,
Fred Shaffer,	Samuel Channell,	B. J. Marks,
R. R. MacVettie,	E. L. Wolfong,	Dana McVeigh,
J. J. MacVettie,	E. W. Dumire,	Joseph Pelican,
C. M. Metheny,	J. N. Wilt,	A. B. Bright,
M. P. McLaughlin,	O. D. Miller,	B. J. McAvan.
Warnie Cottrill,	G. N. Funk,	C. F. Sager,
Hiram Cottrill,	Preston Flynn,	P. H. Cornelius,
C. W. Kline,	Van Deem.	C. B. Veach,
William McVeigh,	D. A. Moran,	R. B. Riffle,
W. A. Jones,	S. R. Whorrell,	A. J. Meyers,
C. E. Meader,	A. W. Stonebraker,	Dorsey Love,
Harry Troutman,	V. Hortsock,	O. C. Callihan,
Louis T. Wolfs,	D. E. Cuppett,	I. A. Canfield,
Patrick Rowan,	C. D. Poling,	A. W. Windom,
D. W. Mason,	Frank Cessna,	N. B. Howes,
K. M. Waldron,	G. W. Allender,	E. S. Kirkpatrick
E. M. Cale,	D. R. Mateer,	R. L. Oakes,
Walter Helmick,	O. A. Feather,	C. O. Wotring,
C. F. Burley,	R. D. Twigg,	P. J. Byron,
J. G. O'Conor,	M. C. Browning,	C. E. MacManus,
C. N. McIntire,	W. H. Meader,	C. W. Newlin,

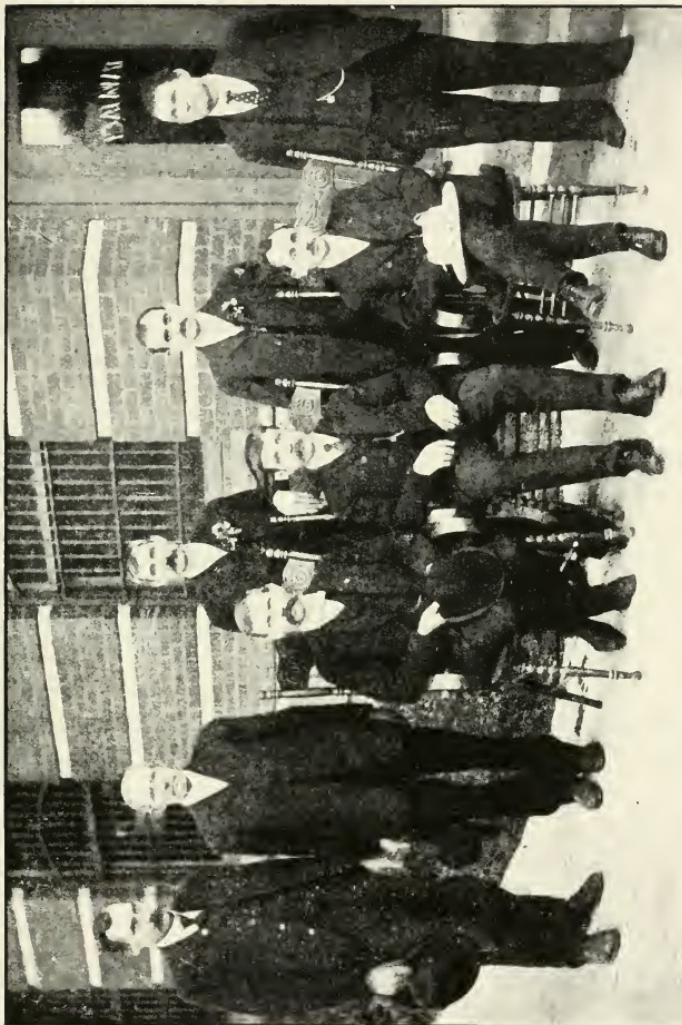
MEMBERSHIP ROLL CONTINUED.

C. J. Kinsolving,	S. L. Coberly,	J. C. McAllister,
Sylvanus Harper,	Chas. J. McCusker,	A. I. Jenkins,
W. R. Ricker,	Joseph Proud,	W. H. Shercliff,
R. J. Schooley,	Joseph A. Williams,	Frank Rodell,
J. H. Larue,	J. M. Prather,	J. M. Domer,
W. H. Dumire,	J. R. Thomas,	I. V. Decker,
E. L. Judy,	T. M. Lee,	S. A. Rinehart,
L. S. McDowell,	James Buskirk,	J. B. Jenkins,
W. B. Haller,	P. J. Keely,	Richard Jenkins,
A. A. Merrow,	H. F. Kirby,	Jas. C. Pugh,
Robert R. Smith,	W. S. Cunningham,	W. J. Bissett,
William Oakford,	H. G. Smith,	H. C. Stemple,
Robert H. Dice,	Thomas Wheeler,	E. Riffle,
W. G. Weaver,	H. D. Head,	J. S. Hamill,
E. F. Gribble,	G. B. Sapp,	J. A. Rexroad,
James Dice,	J. M. Gallagher,	Alex. Ciose,
G. C. Murray,	W. E. Tolmie,	Homer Cessna,
J. A. Kimble,	A. L. Nichols,	L. S. Keim,
H. R. Markwood,	S. O. Billings,	L. P. Brown.
C. E. Landacre,	J. E. Brown,	
Henry Nine,	J. W. Arnold,	

Thomas Lodge, No. 145, Independent
Order of Odd Fellows

OFFICERS.

SIMON SOWERS, Noble Grand.
HARRY PETERSON, Vice Grand.
ARTHUR W. COOPER, Warden.
ALBERT E. PRICE, Conductor.
DANIEL WESTFALL, Secretary.
ALBERT E. MICHAEL, Treasurer.
J. N. WILT, R. S. N. G.
W. B. RIGGLEMAN, L. S. N. G.
FRED WEST, R. S. V. G.
E. P. CUMMINGS, L. S. V. G.
WILLIAM CARRICO, R. S. S.
ISAAC GERSTEIN, L. S. S.
L. A. STEMPLE, Chaplain.



A GROUP OF I. O. O. F. OFFICERS

**Thomas Lodge, No. 145, Independent
Order of Odd Fellows**

“The crest and crowning of all good
Life's final star is BROTHERHOOD.”

Thomas Lodge of I. O. O. F. was organized April 12, 1893. Its charter was granted by the Grand Lodge at its next meeting, being dated November 22, 1893; and was signed by (now Judge) Alston G. Dayton, Grand Master, and E. A. Billingslea, Grand Secretary.

Soon after it was equipped for work a fire destroyed the building where we met, and our property. Possessing the indomitable spirit of Father Wildey, the optimism of Ridgely and Colfax, we pushed forward; many of the noble brothers making donations for the purchase of new property.

Thomas Lodge has done much work. Our population, characteristic of a mining town, is transient, hence our roster has never shown a number commensurate with our real work. Our brothers would transfer to their new localities. However we paid capitation tax on 100 members July 1, 1906, and for the year ending on June 30, 1906, had paid for relief more than \$600.00.

While we are situated out here on a spur of the Allegheny mountains, we remember that the chain of our friendship has 12,000 links, (lodges) and reaches around the world; and that from our treasures flow a yearly beneficence expressed in \$4,326,509; so we are not lonesome in our good work. We are progressive in Lodge No. 145.

REBEKAH BRANCH.

Believing that it is not good for man to be alone, we have a Rebekah Branch which was chartered November 22, 1902.

“Like the bees our busy daughters
In love's service never cease;
Like the dove o'er troubled waters,
They bear olive leaves of peace;
Like the moon and stars our order,
Scatters light from heaven caught,
And God's blessings shall reward her
For the good that she has wrought.”

Finding this branch a helpful addition, we were not content until we had an Encampment, which was chartered November 17, 1903, and is doing good work, maintaining a healthy condition.

“How grand in age, how fair in youth,
Are holy FRIENDSHIP, LOVE, AND TRUTH.”

THE SECRETARY.

Thomas Concert Band

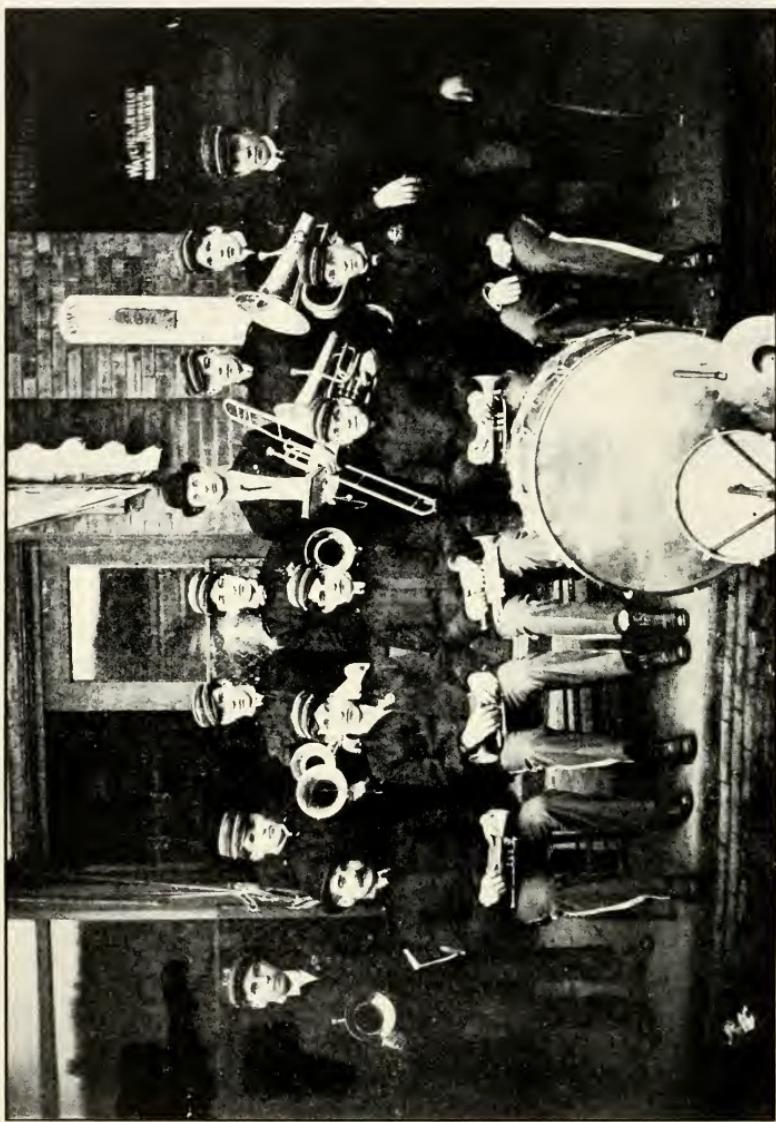
ORGANIZED IN 1900.

REORGANIZED MARCH, 1905.

ORGANIZATION.

JOSEPH A. REXROAD, Leader and Coronet.

PETER DORNON,	Coronet.	FRANK PELICAN,	Alto.
RILEY TICE,	Coronet.	ALBERT TOPPER,	Trombone.
ROY DAVIS,	Coronet.	WALTER PHILIPS,	Baritone.
AMBROSE DAVIS,	Coronet.	ARCH STUART,	Base.
JOHN RUSSELL,	Alto.	EVERT MANLEY,	Snare Drum.
JAMES HAWKSHAW,	Alto.	CLYDE SCHOOLY,	Base Drum.



THOMAS CONCERT BAND

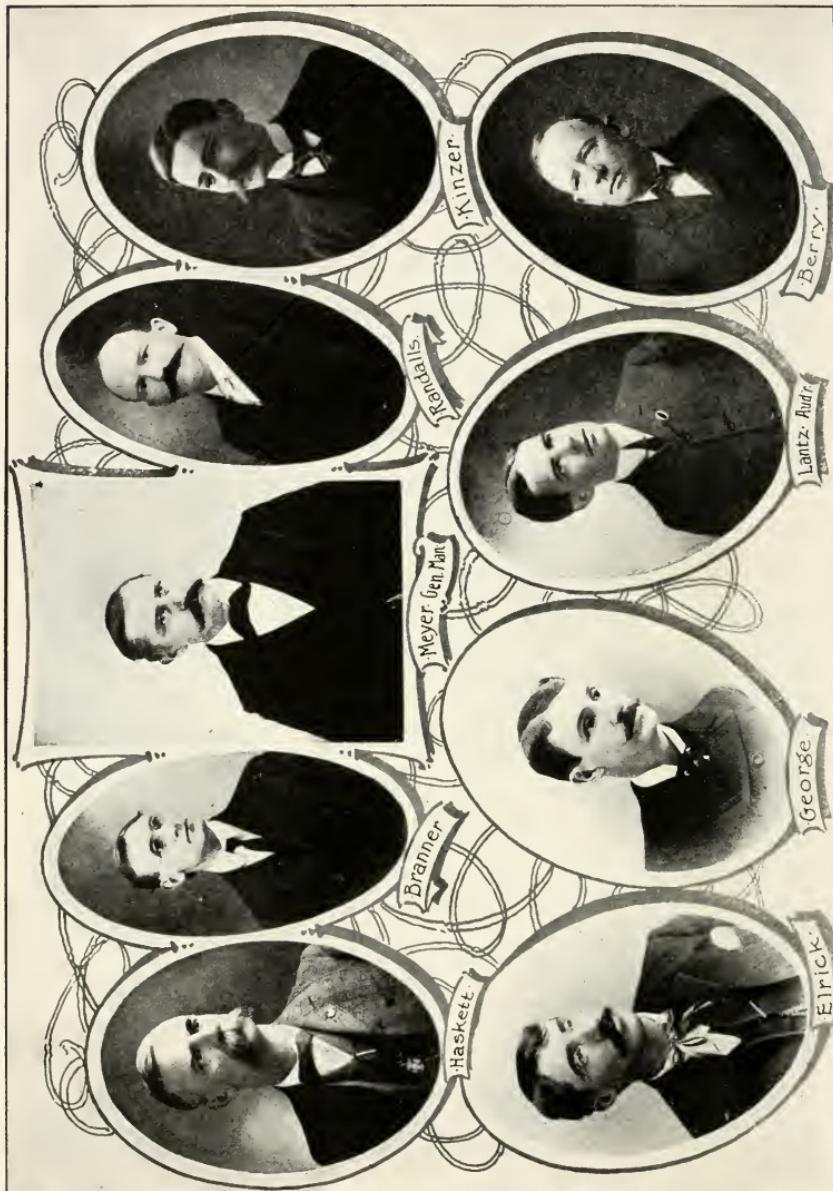
The Buxton & Landstreet Company

OFFICERS.

WINSLOW S. PIERCE, President.
F. S. LANDSTREET, Vice President.
T. B. DAVIS, JR., Vice President.
L. F. TIMMERMAN, Secretary.
J. T. M. BARNES, Treasurer.
H. A. MEYER, General Manager.
C. H. LANTZ, Auditor.

STORE MANAGERS.

Thomas, West Virginia, H. C. BERRY.
Elk Garden, West Virginia, G. S. KINZER.
Wabash, West Virginia, G. R. BRANNER.
Beryl, West Virginia, W. S. RANDELLS.
Simpson, West Virginia, C. W. GEORGE.
Henry, West Virginia, C. W. ELRICK.
Weaver, West Virginia, L. C. HESKITT.



A GROUP OF B. & L. CO. OFFICIALS AND STORE MANAGERS

The Buxton & Landstreet Company

The Buxton & Landstreet Company was incorporated under the laws of West Virginia, in 1889, to do a general mercantile business. They do the largest general retail business in the State of West Virginia, now owning and operating seven large stores.

Their Thomas store is an imposing structure. The building is 81 by 121 feet, and has two stories above the basement, which is really in itself a floor. An immense arched doorway fills the front and opens onto a platform extending the full length of the building. It is lined with white tile brick, ceiled with ornamental sheet steel, and the ceilings are supported by lines of graceful columns. Forty-six 1,200 candle power electric arc lights, besides the numerous incandescents, illuminate the building by night, while by day its numerous windows light it perfectly.

This store under the efficient management of Mr. H. C. Berry, with his corps of courteous clerks, is one of which any city would be proud.

THOMAS EMPLOYES.

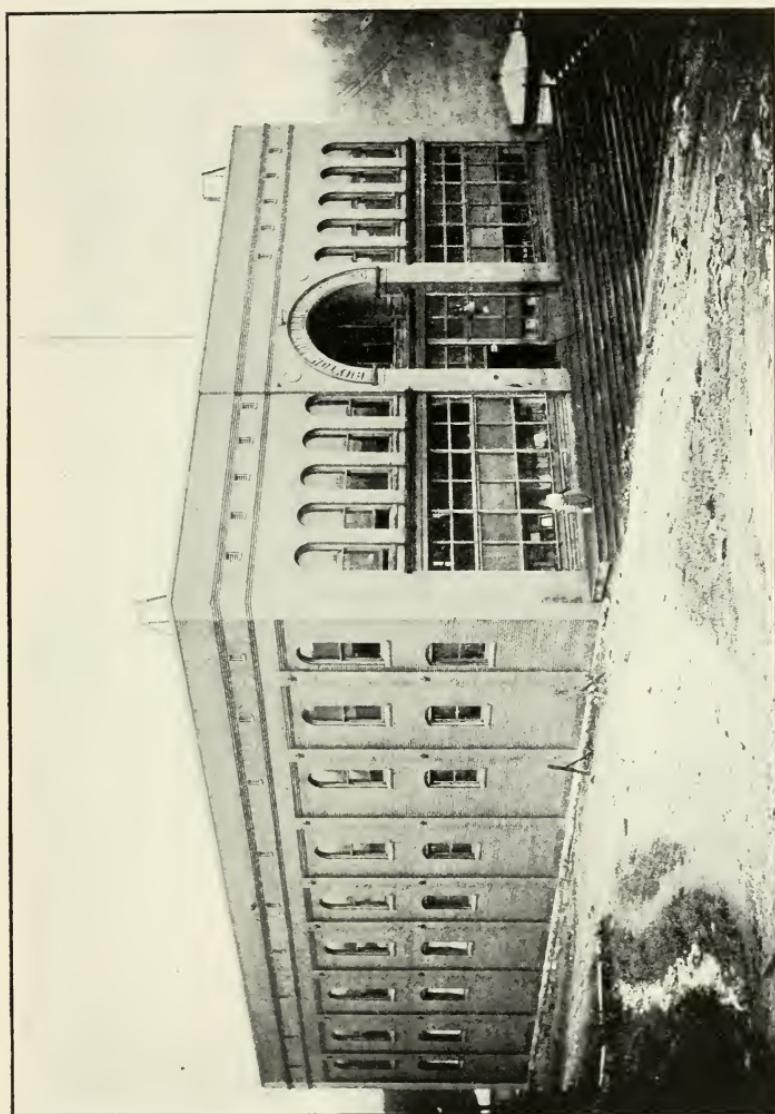
H. C. BERRY, Manager.

H. W. NETHKIN,	CHARLES WINGFIELD,
A. S. HARNESS,	C. B. LEWIS,
L. G. HARLEY,	EDWIN BAKER,
JOHN E. LUPTON,	GEORGE LOSH,
L. WOOD DICKENS,	WILLIAM STILWELL,
J. W. THOMPSON,	E. MURRAY,
M. L. PENNYBACKER.	

THE TOWN OF THOMAS.



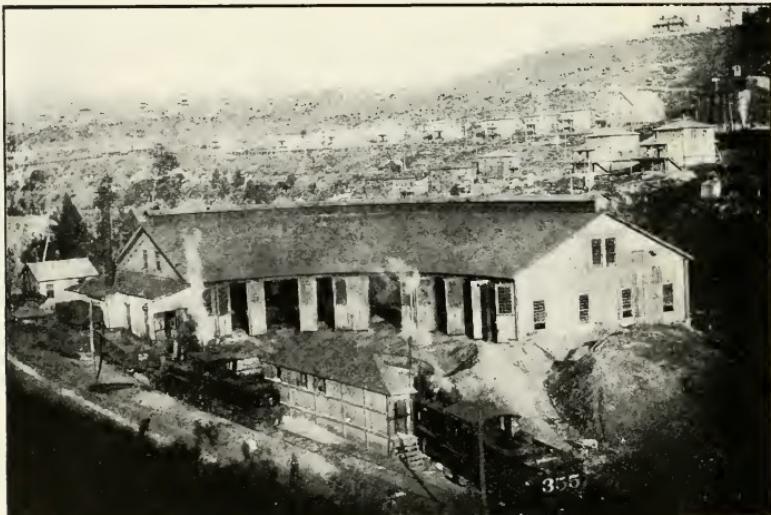
A GROUP OF B. & L. CO. EMPLOYEES



BUXTON & LANDSTREET COMPANY'S STORE



WESTERN MARYLAND R. R. DEPOT



WESTERN MARYLAND SHOP AND ROUND HOUSE

BOND BROTHERS.

Located about one mile west of the corporate limits of Thomas is the lumber plant of the Bond Brothers, of the firm of DuBois & Bond Brothers, Maryland. This firm is also installing a second mill just north of town along the line of the Western Maryland Railroad. From 3,000 to 5,000 acres of timber is yet to be manufactured into lumber at these mills. The mill to the west of the town is the larger of the two and is modern in all its appointments, having steam feed works, sawdust



BOND BROTHERS SAW MILL, NORTH OF THOMAS

carrier and ovens, gang edger, lath mill, planer, etc. A tram railway, about one mile long, connects this plant with the main line of the Western Maryland.

Mr. William C. Bond, the senior member of the firm, is general manager of their entire operations. He is a genial gentleman, a first-class lumberman and a thorough business man. Their West Virginia operations were not satisfactory to themselves until January 1, 1906, when Mr. Bond entered the field himself. Since then, through his efforts and that of his efficient assistant, Mr. D. B. Martin, they have been manufacturing lumber in much larger quantities.



BOND BROTHERS' SAW MILL, WEST OF THOMAS

HON. THOMAS B. DAVIS, M. C.

Honorable Thomas B. Davis, to whom this book is dedicated, was born at Baltimore, Maryland, April 25, 1828, and in early life moved to Howard county, Maryland, where he grew to manhood; received such education as the common schools at that time afforded; in the early fifties, he and his brother, the Honorable Henry G. Davis, moved to Piedmont, West Virginia, and entered the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company; a few years later he engaged in the mercantile business, lumbering, banking, mining, and finally the building of railroads; in later years he devoted much time to farming and raising fine stock; was elected to the legislature of this state from Mineral County as a Democrat in 1898, overcoming a large Republican majority; has been a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee for more than thirty years; was elected to the Fifty-ninth Congress at the special election held June 6, 1905, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Honorable A. G. Dayton, receiving 18,561 votes to 17,646 for J. S. Lakin, Republican, and 721 for W. F. Reynolds, Prohibitionist.

Colonel Davis, as he is commonly called, is inseparably connected with the history of the development of eastern and central West Virginia. He is a many-sided man and his life has been crowded with events. As a recognition of his worth and popularity, he bears the distinction of being a Democratic Congressman in a Republican district.



HON. STEPHEN B. ELKINS

SENATOR S. B. ELKINS.

Honorable Stephen B. Elkins, of Elkins, West Virginia, was born in Perry County, Ohio, September 26, 1841; received his early education in the public schools of Missouri, and graduated from the University of that state, at Columbia, in the class of 1860; admitted to the bar in 1864, and in the same year went to New Mexico, where he acquired a knowledge of the Spanish language, and began the practice of law; member of the Territorial Legislative Assembly of New Mexico in 1864 and 1865; held the offices of Territorial District Attorney, Attorney-General, and United States District Attorney; elected to the Forty-third Congress, and while abroad was nominated and elected to the Forty-fourth Congress; during his first term in Congress made a member of the Republican National Committee, on which he served for three Presidential campaigns; after leaving Congress moved to West Virginia and devoted himself to business affairs; appointed Secretary of War December 17, 1889, and served until the close of President Harrison's administration; in February, 1895, elected to the United States Senate to succeed Hon. Johnson N. Camden, and re-elected in 1901 by the unanimous vote of the Republican members of the Legislature.

As senior United States Senator from West Virginia, he is regarded as one of the most capable and forceful men in the Senate of the United States.

Senator Elkins is closer identified, perhaps, with the commercial, manufacturing, and mining interests of the state which he represents than any of the senators from the other states.

Prior to his coming to West Virginia he had become a man of affairs and was ranked with the capitalists of the Southwest. After removing to West Virginia, in company with his father-in-law, ex-Senator Davis, he has devoted himself, apart from political life, to the development of the great natural resources of the State. As Vice-President of the West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh Railway and President of the Davis Coal & Coke Company for many years, the section of the State where these operate will ever bear the impress of his masterful hand.

Personally Senator Elkins is of commanding appearance, a noble type of American manhood.

W. A. JONES.

Mr. Jones is a native of Wales, Great Britain. He was educated in the government schools of his native country, and afterwards learned the trade of brickmaker. Emigrating to America in 1885, with his family, consisting of a wife and one child, he located at Philipsburg, Centre county, Pennsylvania, and engaged in coal mining. After two years he moved to Lonaconing, Maryland, where he followed a like occupation for one year, when he came to Thomas. At first he worked for the Davis Coal & Coke Company, but entered the mercantile business in 1902. The fact that Mr. Jones is now serving his second term as justice of the peace for Fairtax District, and his fifth term as mayor of the town of Thomas, bespeaks his popularity.

J. A. EBERLE.

J. A. Eberle was born at Bridgeport, Ohio, September 12, 1866. He came to Davis, West Virginia, in 1898, and worked at the butcher trade until 1902, when he opened a meat market at Thomas. Since coming to Thomas, he has given his entire time and energies to his business, and at this time has the largest and best equipped meat market and slaughter house in this section of the country. At the last municipal election Mr. Eberle was chosen a town councilman.

J. G. O'CONOR.

Mr. O'Conor, son of John O'Conor, was born in Hudson, Mass., December 1, 1875. His father having been disabled while fighting for the Union cause at the battle of Gettysburg, determined, in 1880, to return with his family to Ireland. J. G. O'Conor returned to Massachusetts in 1890, and after taking a commercial course, accepted a position with John Wanamaker at Philadelphia, which position he filled for one year. He then served three years in the United States Marine Corps. He came to Thomas in 1896, and entered the employ of the West Virginia Central & Pittsburg Railway Company as fireman, but in one and one-half years was promoted to engineer.

Mr. O'Conor owns property both here and in Ireland, and at this time is a member of the town council.

ROB ROY MACVETTIE, A. B., D. D. S.

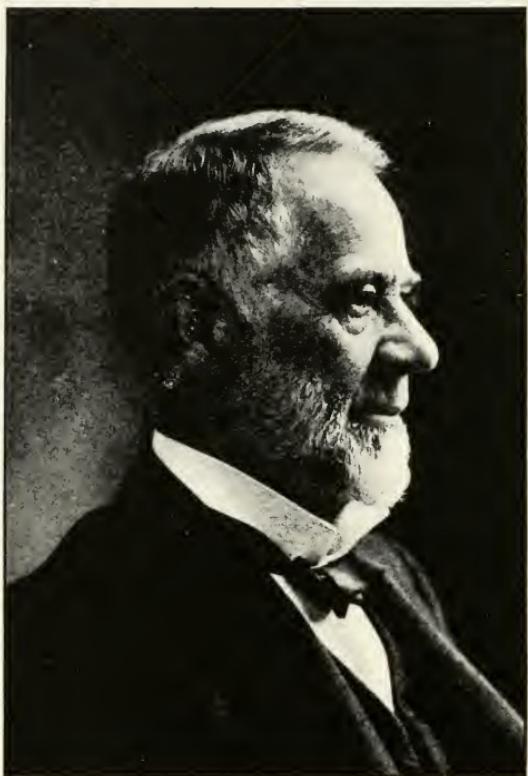
Dr. MacVettie was born in Clinton, Ontario, Canada, in 1871. He attended the public schools of his native province, but at an early age removed with his father, who was an Episcopal minister, to Fairbault, Minnesota. He then entered Shattuck Military School from which he graduated, and afterwards took his bachelor degree from the University of Minnesota. After attending Louisville Medical and Dental College for one year, he entered the Cincinnati College of Dental Surgery from which he graduated in 1901, and then located at Thomas for the practice of dentistry. He was married November 14, 1905, to Miss Lena Geisberger. Dr. MacVettie has served the town twice as mayor and is a member of the present council.

A. R. CLOSE.

Mr. Close, a native of Tucker county, was born in 1878. His education was limited to the meager advantages to be derived in a few years at the public schools. He entered the mines at eleven years of age where he has risen from the position of mule driver to mine foreman. He was married in 1902 to Miss Carrie Sell, of Thomas. At the last municipal election Mr. Close was chosen a town councilman.

WILLIAM McVEIGH.

William McVeigh was born in Preston county in 1875. He attended the free schools for a time, but at an early age worked with his father at lumbering. He moved with his father to Thomas in 1893, where he engaged in coal mining until 1903, when he went on the police force. After serving the town two years, he again went to mining, being put in charge of one of the Davis Coal & Coke Company's mines at the Coketon colliery. January 30, 1906, he was elected chief of police which office he now fills. He is also constable for Fairfax District, having been elected in 1904. Mr. McVeigh is altogether an energetic and popular young man.



HON. H. G. DAVIS

HON. H. G. DAVIS.

Honorable Henry G. Davis, of Elkins, West Virginia, was born in Howard County, Maryland, November 16, 1823; received a country school education; lived and worked upon a farm until 1843; in the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company for fourteen years; commenced banking and mining coal at Piedmont in 1858; engaged in banking, mining and shipping coal, building railroads, etc., almost continually since that time; elected to the House of Delegates in 1865; member of the National Democratic Convention at New York in 1868, and at Baltimore in 1872; elected to the State Senate in 1868 and 1870; elected to the United States Senate as a Democrat to succeed W. T. Willey, Republican; took his seat March 4, 1871; re-elected, serving until March, 1883; Democratic candidate for Vice President in 1904.

No man has done as much to develop the natural resources of Central West Virginia as Senator Davis. He has built and caused to be built hundreds of miles of railroads and flourishing cities of industry, where but a quarter a century ago was an almost unexplored wilderness. He was president of the West Virginia Central & Pittsburg Railway from the time of its organization until the road was sold to the Wabash interests and president of the Davis Coal & Coke Company for a number of years. Both the West Virginia Division of the Western Maryland and the Coal & Coke Railroads will ever stand as monuments to his indomitable energy, untiring progressiveness, and confidence in the resources of West Virginia.

No man in the State is held in greater esteem by its citizens than Senator Davis. Some one has very fittingly styled him the "Grand Old Man of West Virginia."



GEN. SUPT. J. F. HEALY'S RESIDENCE (D. C. & C. CO.)

J. F. HEALY, GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT
DAVIS COAL & COKE CO.

Mr. Healy was born in Blossburg, Pennsylvania, and during his early youth worked in various capacities in the coal mines of that district for a period of ten years.

Entering Pennsylvania State College he was graduated in 1884 from the engineering department. He is not only a graduate engineer, but a man of broad education, well read in many lines.

After graduating he was employed in the engineering department of the Beech Creek Railroad in Pennsylvania about a year. He then spent a year in and around the mines of Missouri. Since that time, until three years ago, he has devoted his entire time to engineering and mining, becoming successively Resident Engineer on the Great Northern Railway in Dakota, Locating and Constructing Engineer on the Tennessee Central Railway in Tennessee, Assistant Engineer on the Queen & Crescent Route between Cincinnati and New Orleans, and Mining Engineer and Superintendent in Washington, Montana and West Virginia.

The Davis Coal & Coke Company secured his services in 1889, as chief engineer of their entire mining operations. He served in this capacity until 1903, when he was made General Superintendent of the company.

In early life he was united in marriage with Miss Isabelle Davidson, of Birmingham, Alabama. A family of six children has been born to this union.

In politics Mr. Healy is a republican and has often served his party as a delegate to senatorial, congressional, and state conventions.



CCL. A. R. STALLINGS

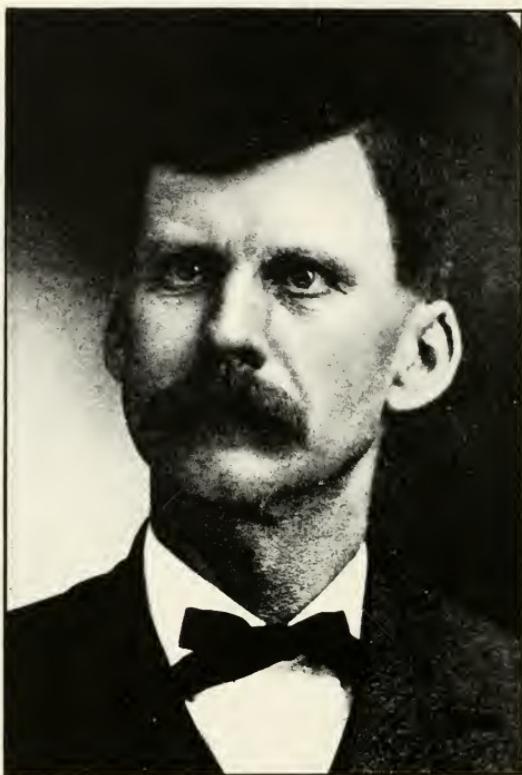
COL. A. R. STALLINGS.

Col. A. R. Stallings, one of the most brilliant lawyers of West Virginia and a member of the law firm of Cunningham & Stallings, of Davis and Parsons, was born in Grant county, West Virginia, July 20, 1867. He received his education in the public schools and the West Virginia University, graduating in the law class of 1896. While he was admitted to the bar the same year of his graduation, his law practice at Davis did not begin until 1897.

In politics Col. Stallings is a republican and has always taken a very active part in polities. At one time he was chairman of the Tucker County Republican Committee, and at present is a member of the Republican Congressional Committee and the Republican State Committee. Under Governor White he was placed on the general staff of the West Virginia National Guards as colonel and is retained under the present administration.

His usefulness does not end with his law practice, but he is officially connected with a number of corporate interests in this section. His business connection with Thomas at present is as president of the Miners and Merchants Bank.

Col. Stallings is a man of fine personality and pleasing address, and is an orator of much force. Few men of his age and with only ten years of professional life behind them can expect as great things in the future as he.

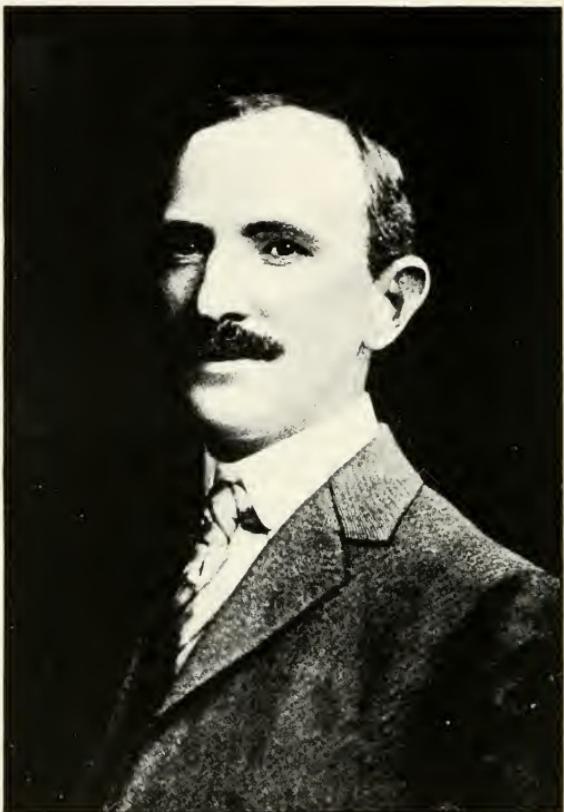


L. S. McDOWELL

L. S. McDOWELL.

Mr. McDowell was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, May 2, 1859. At the age of six years he moved with his parents to Dunbar, Pennsylvania. He attended the public schools until fourteen years of age when he entered the employ of the Dunbar Furnace Company, where he served as apprentice for four years. After continuing at foundry work for some years, he took charge of their coking operations and remained with them until 1886, when he resigned to accept a similar position with the Fayette Coke & Furnace Company at Oliphant, Pennsylvania. At the expiration of two years he was placed in charge of the company's blast furnaces, where he continued to serve the company until the coal works were sold and the blast furnaces dismantled. In the spring of 1891, he accepted a position as superintendent of the Martin Coke Company, located about four miles south of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, and remained with them until 1895 when he accepted the position of general coke foreman of the Davis Coal & Coke Co. at Coketon, West Virginia. In March, 1902, he was made superintendent of the Thomas and Coketon Collieries, filling this position until July 1, 1905, when, on account of poor health, he gave up mine work and accepted the position of superintendent of the coke department, now having charge of their entire coking operations. He was married in 1885 to Miss Effie Ressler, of Bedford county, Pennsylvania.

Mr. McDowell is thoroughly acquainted with the coal business, and knows as much about coke as any man in the country.



ELVIN L. JUDY

ELVIN L. JUDY.

Mr. Judy was born near Petersburg, Grant county, West Virginia, August 3, 1870; became a teacher when sixteen years of age; and took his bachelor's degree in law at the West Virginia University in 1896.

He has always been affiliated with the republican party, and was one of the assistant sergeant-at-arms at the national republican convention at Philadelphia, in 1900. The same year he was elected prosecuting attorney of Grant county. Two years later, in 1902, he resigned the office of prosecuting attorney and shortly afterward accepted the position of general land agent of the West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh Railway Company and the Davis Coal Coke Company, which position he held until it was abolished, January 1, 1906, when he was made one of the counsel of the Western Maryland Railroad Company (West Virginia Division) and the Davis Coal & Coke Company.

Mr. Judy's career has been more essentially a business one than educational or professional. For some time he has been engaged in the real estate business on his own account. He has made real estate a study for a number of years, and we predict for him a brilliant career as a commercial and business lawyer.

THOMAS B. DAVIS, JR.

Born in Piedmont, W. Va., 1875. Graduate of Yale, Sheffield Scientific, Class of 1897. Came to Thomas latter part of 1899, taking a position in the Engineering Department of the Davis Coal and Coke Co. Filled various positions in the Engineering and Construction Departments of the Company until 1901, when he severed his connection with the Davis Coal & Coke Company. He then went to Philadelphia, Pa., where he organized the North American Coal Company. In February, 1902, with his associates, he formed what is now the Somerset Coal Company of Pennsylvania, accepting the position of General Manager of the Company. He held this position until the latter part of 1903, when he was appointed Assistant General Manager of Sales of the Fairmont, Consolidation and Somerset Coal Companies with headquarters in New York, and remained in this position until November, 1905, when he was elected Vice-President of the Davis Coal & Coke Company.

JOHN C. BRYDON.

Born in Bloomington, Md., 1871. Received a public school education. Went with the Davis Coal & Coke Company in 1889 as clerk in the office of Superintendent. In 1892 was promoted to Superintendent of the Hampshire mine, Lower Potomac group. In 1895 removed from Hampshire and made Superintendent of Coketon mine and ovens. In 1900 made Superintendent of the Thomas and Coketon Collieries. Accepted position as General Superintendent of the Somerset Coal Company March 1, 1902. Elected by Board of Directors General Manager of the Davis Coal & Coke Company, June 1, 1906.

D. E. CUPPETT.

Mr. Cuppett was born on a farm in Preston county, West Virginia, February 13, 1878. He worked on the farm and attended the public schools until seventeen years of age, when he commenced teaching. After teaching a number of terms, both in West Virginia and Pennsylvania, he entered the Law School of the West Virginia University, where he graduated in 1904. He was very active in college life, being a member of the Sigma Nu, college fraternity, captain of the debating team that debated the Ohio State University, and also winning the inter-society debate the year of his graduation. He is a Republican, and, in the campaign of 1904, stumped a number of the central West Virginia counties. January 1, 1905, he located for the practice of law at Thomas, where he has been very successful. He was married to Miss Vida Barnes, of Brandonville, West Virginia, December 26, 1905.

Mr. Cuppett is a fluent speaker and well equipped for the law. There is always success for such men as he.

J. B. JENKINS.

Mr. Jenkins is an Englishman, having emigrated to America at the age of twenty-one. Being an experienced miner, he at once secured a position as mine foreman, at Dunbar, Pennsylvania.

In 1886 he went South and for four years was superintendent of mines for the Birmingham Mineral & Manufacturing Company, of Alabama. The Cumberland Coal Company, in 1900, secured his services as superintendent of mines for their Albert plant, where he has since continued to give them the benefit of his long experience. Mr. Jenkins is a Republican of the old school, and continues to take an active part in politics. He was sheriff of Tucker county from 1901 to 1905, and is now serving Fairfax district for the second time, as school commissioner.



C. O. STRIEBY.



feated. He has had a large practice in courts of all grades, and has been eminently successful.

HOMER CESSNA.

Mr. Cessna was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, in 1866. For a number of years he successfully engaged in the mercantile, the tannery, and the fruit shipping business. From 1891 to 1894, he spent in the West. In 1900 he entered the employ of the Davis Coal & Coke Company, at Thomas, as time-keeper, in which position he continued to work until July 1, 1905, when he was made House Agent. On January 1, 1906, when the Land Department of the Davis Coal & Coke Company was abolished, he was made Land Superintendent.

Mr. Cessna is both a lover and a fine judge of horses, and for the last five years has bought all the stock for his company. As yet he has made but few investments in West Virginia, but he is a large land owner in Pennsylvania. Not long since he turned over to the United States government, at one time, a forest tract of 5,200 acres for a forest reserve. Mr. Cessna is an all round business man.

One of the best known lawyers of Tucker county is C. O. Strieby, of Davis, West Virginia. Mr. Strieby was born in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, in 1866. After taking a course at Susquehanna University, he came to Tucker county and engaged in school work, teaching the first graded school in Thomas. He then read law and was admitted to the bar, January, 1891. Until September, 1893, he was the junior member of the law firm of Maxwell & Strieby. (W. B. Maxwell). In 1896 he married a daughter of John J. Adams, of St. George, who for twenty-five years was clerk of the County Court of Tucker County. Mr. Strieby's ability is recognized by all, he being made the Democrat candidate for Judge in the sixteenth judicial district of West Virginia, in 1904. He made a strong race, running ahead of his ticket, but, being in a district largely Republican, was defeated.

F. C. CORNET.



The subject of this sketch, Mr. F. C. Cornet, was born at La Louviere, Belgium, March 20, 1863. He is a college graduate as well as a graduate in both mining and mechanical engineering. From 1883 to 1895, he was engaged in deep shaft engineering for the Couchant de Mons Coal & Coke Company, of Belgium. In June, 1895, he resigned to take charge of the mechanical department and water works on the Isthmus of Panama, for the New Panama Canal Company, being located at Culebra. In July, 1896, he came to the United States, where for three years he was employed by Belgian capitalists to investigate the zinc ore deposits in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee, and Missouri. For the next two years he was again in Belgium in charge of the mechanical and construction departments

for his old company. In 1901 he again came to the United States, and for two years engaged with the Rand Drill Company as a designer of oil engines as applied to air compressors. For the last three years he has been in charge of the engineering of the Davis Coal & Coke Company's mining operations.

Mr. Cornet is now a naturalized American citizen.

SHERIFF A. L. HELMICK.

The subject of this sketch was born in Circleville, Pendleton county, West Virginia, August 31, 1864. His youth was spent on a farm, where he received such education as could be obtained at the public schools. This was followed by a course at the Fairmont Normal. At first he engaged in farming, but came to Thomas in 1887, and engaged in the mercantile business. He was appointed post master under Harrison in 1888; elected county commissioner in 1900; and sheriff in 1904, in which office he now serves the people.

Mr. Helmick has always been a Republican, and has taken a very active part in politics.



C. M. METHENY.



Mr. Metheny was born at Kingwood, Preston county, West Virginia, in 1873. When he had completed the public school course, he attended the West Virginia Conference Seminary, at Buckhannon, for a time. He taught school for three years, and in 1891 became a jeweler. He first worked in Terra Alta, and later in Keyser, West Virginia.

He came to Thomas in 1897, and since that time has conducted a large jewelry store and repair shop at this place.

Mr. Metheny is a good workman as his work testifies. He has been watch inspector for the Western Maryland Railroad for several years.

REV. WALTER M. GIVEN.

Rev. Walter Given was born in Barbour county, West Virginia, July 11, 1879. When he completed the free school course of his county, he entered Morris-Harvey College from which he graduated in 1901, with the degree of Bachelor of Pedagogy. The same year he joined the Western Virginia Conference, and was given work at Enterprise, W. Va. One year later he was sent to Graysflats, where he served a charge for two years. He is now pastor of both Thomas and Davis M. E. churches, South.

He was married in 1903, to Miss Lenora Wilson, of Fairmont, West Virginia. They now live at Davis, West Virginia.



REV. DANIEL WESTFALL.

Rev. Westfall, a son of Samuel T. Westfall, who was himself a minister, was born at Buckhannon, West Virginia, September 18, 1871. As a boy he attended the free schools of Upshur county and later the West Virginia Normal and Classical Academy, at Buckhannon, and still later entered the West Virginia Conference Seminary at the same place. He taught school for seven years, beginning at the age of seventeen, yet he never taught on any other than a number one certificate. He was converted at the age of fifteen, licensed as a local preacher at eighteen, and joined the West Virginia Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1895. Since that time he has served two charges and the Thomas M. E. church, having now been at Thomas seven years. No minister of the conference of his age has filled a greater number or more responsible offices than he. Among others, he has been treasurer, a member of the educational committee, and for the last two years has been a member of the board of examiners. In 1895 he married Miss Hope Webb Thacker, a daughter of a prominent minister of the West Virginia Conference. Six children have been born into this home; three boys and three girls.

Rev. Westfall is descended from a direct line of ministers from the time of the Wesleys, and, from his past record, we predict for him continued success.



CHAS. D. SMITH.

Chas. D. Smith was born in Montgomery county, Maryland, in 1870; became a school teacher, and after teaching several years, studied law and was admitted to the bar. Mr. Smith has been a citizen of Tucker county for some time, and previous to his election to the office of prosecuting attorney, was a member of the local bar, having an office both at Parsons, West Virginia, and at Thomas. Mr. Smith is scholarly and well equipped for his profession, and we predict for him merited success.



J. E. POLING.



While Mr. Poling is not a resident of Thomas now nor never was, he has at various times owned and operated branch stores at this place. He was born in Barbour county, West Virginia, in 1855; commenced working in a store as a clerk at the age of seventeen, and formed a partnership with a Mr. Dilworth, at Hendricks, West Virginia, in 1888. Dilworth & Poling were succeeded by the Hendricks Company, and the Hendricks Company by J. E. Poling & Company, the firm now doing business. Mr. Poling has been manager of all these firms from the first, and is also manager of Harper, Ryan & Co., now doing a large dry goods business at Parsons, West Virginia.

Mr. Poling is a Prohibitionist, and his worth as a man has been recognized at different times by being placed on that ticket for responsible offices.

R. C. SIMPSON.

Mr. Simpson is a Pennsylvanian by birth, a West Virginian by adoption, and a miner by occupation. He entered the mines at the age of twelve years, but a little later was enabled to attend school for several years, finishing his education with a course at Duff's Commercial College, Pittsburg. For a time he worked in the bituminous coal fields, but soon entered the anthracite fields where he spent four years familiarizing himself with the methods and conditions of the anthracite coal fields, which hard earned experience served him well in after years. For six years previous to accepting his present position, that of Superintendent of the Davis Coal & Coke Company's Coketon colliery, he served the Pittsburg, Buffalo Coal Company.

As a whole he has gone through all branches pertaining to mines—trapper, driver, trip driver, boss driver, motorman, fire boss, mine foreman, and superintendent.



GEORGE A. ILER.

Mr. Iler was born at Massillion, Ohio, March 27, 1881. During vacations, while attending the city schools, he served for a time as an apprentice to the city electrician. Later, he served four years in the Baltimore & Ohio machine shops, at Garrett, Indiana. During the Spanish-American War he belonged to the Sixteenth Pennsylvania Volunteer Regiment and served in Porto Rico under General Miles. In December, 1899, he joined the navy and served as chief electrician on a number of our largest and fastest war vessels, and during the latter half of 1903 was instructor in the New York Navy Yard School of Electricians. Since that time he has been in the employ of the National Coal & Iron Company, the Yellow Creek Coal Company, both of Kentucky, and the Davis Coal & Coke Company, at Thomas, West Virginia, as electrical engineer and superintendent of power. He was married in 1904 to Miss Amelia Culton, daughter of John W. Culton, of Pineville, Kentucky. While Mr. Iler is only twenty-five years old, he has had a varied career.



WLADYSLAW DACKIEWICZ.



Mr. Dackiewicz was born in Poland in 1863. He emigrated to New York City in 1887, where for three years he was editor and publisher of a Polish weekly newspaper; inspector for the Standard Gas Light Company for four years; and for a number of years engaged in the real estate and insurance business.

In 1903 he came to Thomas as interpreter for the Davis Coal & Coke Company. Mr. Dackiewicz speaks six or eight languages. Two years after emigrating to America he married a Polish lady who emigrated about the same time. They, with their children reside in Thomas.

THE TOWN OF THOMAS.

MRS. MARY GEISBERGER.



A more business-like woman is not to be met than the subject of this sketch, Mrs. Mary (Iberg) Geisberger, who was born in Switzerland, Nov. 20, 1856. She was united in marriage with Mr. Robert Geisberger at the age of twenty-one.

In 1879, she, with her husband, emigrated from Switzerland to Alpena, then a new settlement in Randolph county, West Virginia, where for a time Mr. Geisberger engaged in farming. From Alpena they moved to Lonaconing, Maryland, where they engaged in the boarding house business, and followed a like business for the West Virginia Central & Pittsburgh Railway Company along its line of construction. That road was completed to Thomas in August of

1884, when the Geisbergers opened a hotel here.

A family of five girls was born to Mr. and Mrs. Geisberger, but at this time Mrs. Geisberger and one daughter, Mrs. Marie Spencer, only are living; Mr. Geisberger and four daughters being dead. Mrs. Geisberger owns considerable property and is, perhaps, the heaviest individual tax payer in Thomas. She retired from active business in 1900, and now lives in private apartments at the Hotel Metropolitan, which building she owns.

MRS. P. E. THAYER.

No woman in Thomas deserves more credit than does Mrs. P. E. (Hoover) Thayer, who was born in Pendleton county, West Virginia, in 1862. She was married at the age of nineteen to Mr. Richard H. Thayer, of Oakland, Maryland. After a short residence in Oakland they moved to Winona, Logan county, Kansas, where they conducted a hotel. In June, 1887, they came to Thomas, where Mr. Thayer now mines coal for the Davis Coal & Coke Company. Wholly through Mrs. Thayer's labors, economy and business ability, she has accumulated considerable property. In the great fire of 1901 she lost four buildings. Not to be daunted by this loss, she only built greater, and now not only owns good property in Thomas, but property of much value in Winona, Kansas.



D. R. JONES.

A life-long and practical miner is the subject of this sketch, Mr. D. R. Jones. He was born in South Wales, November 25, 1841; commenced mining when eight years of age; and emigrated to America in 1857, where he has since been engaged in the coal fields of Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. He has been either a mine foreman or a superintendent for the last twenty-five years, having been in the employ of one company for eighteen years.

In 1904 he was made assistant superintendent of the Davis Coal & Coke Company's Thomas colliery, and July 1, 1905, superintendent. Mr. Jones has much experience in shaft mining and has had charge of sinking of six shafts.

ARTHUR STUART.

Mr. Stuart was born in Middloanth Shire, Scotland, August 13, 1846. He has been a miner all his life, having entered the mines at the age of eight years. He was married at the age of twenty to Miss Mary Gray, and three years later they emigrated to America. A family of seventeen has been born to this union, thirteen of which are still living.

Since coming to America Mr. Stuart has been engaged in the Barton, Hampshire, Elk Garden, and Thomas mines, and for some time has been a night foreman for the Davis Coal & Coke Company.

He is a Republican and has always taken an active part in politics. He has served the town as councilman, and for several years, Fairfax district as President of the Board of Education.

Fraternally he is a Red Man, Odd Fellow, and Knight of the Mystic Chain. Religiously he and his family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church.



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No. 35 Mine, Coketon Colliery

A. E. WOOD,
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No. 34 Mine, Thomas Colliery.

A. R. CLOSE,
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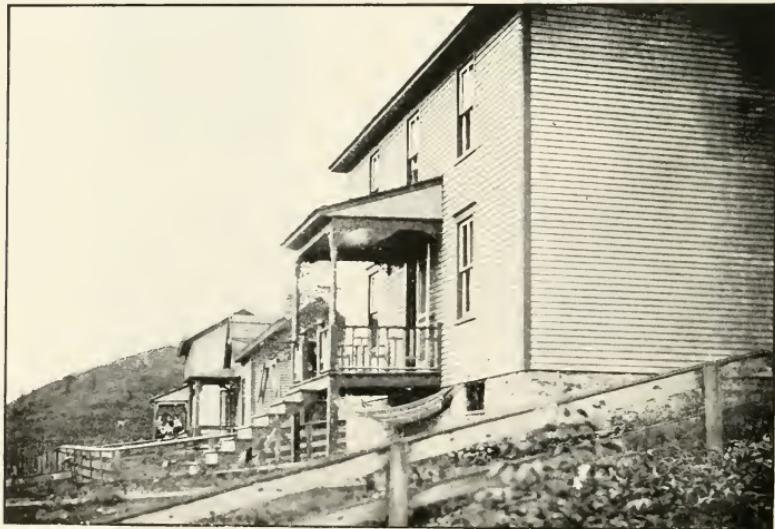
J. A. REXROAD,
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S. E. HAWKSHAW,
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as Colliery.





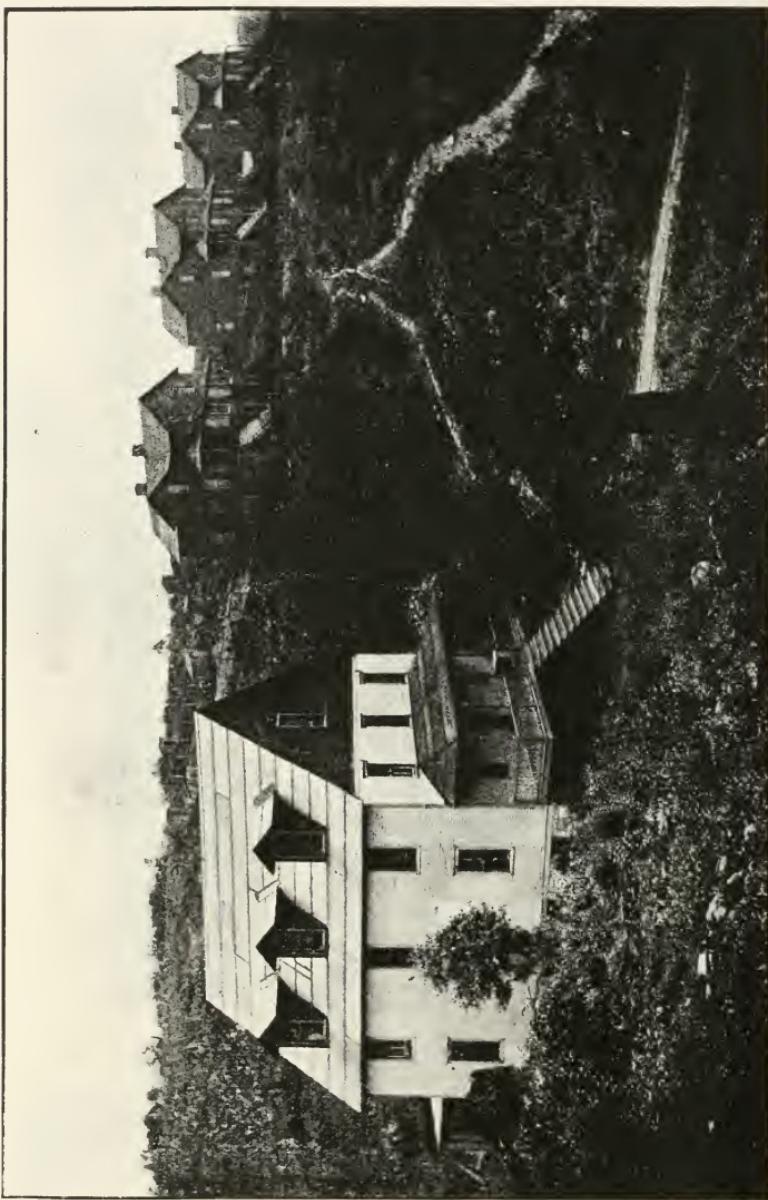
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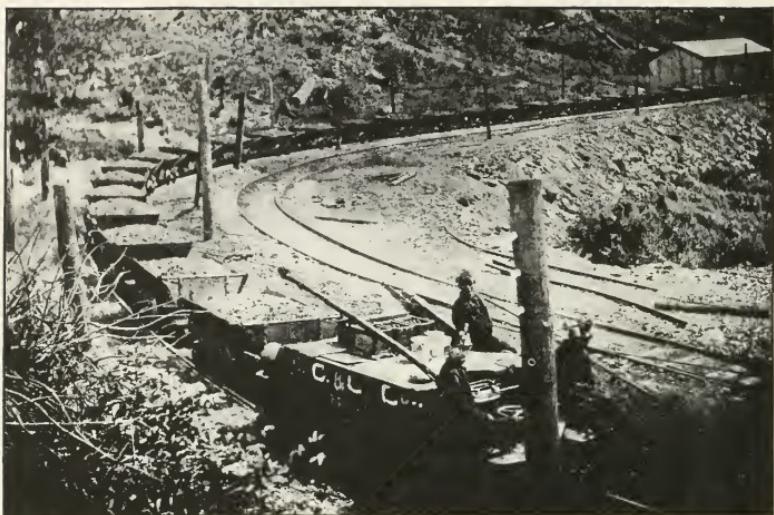
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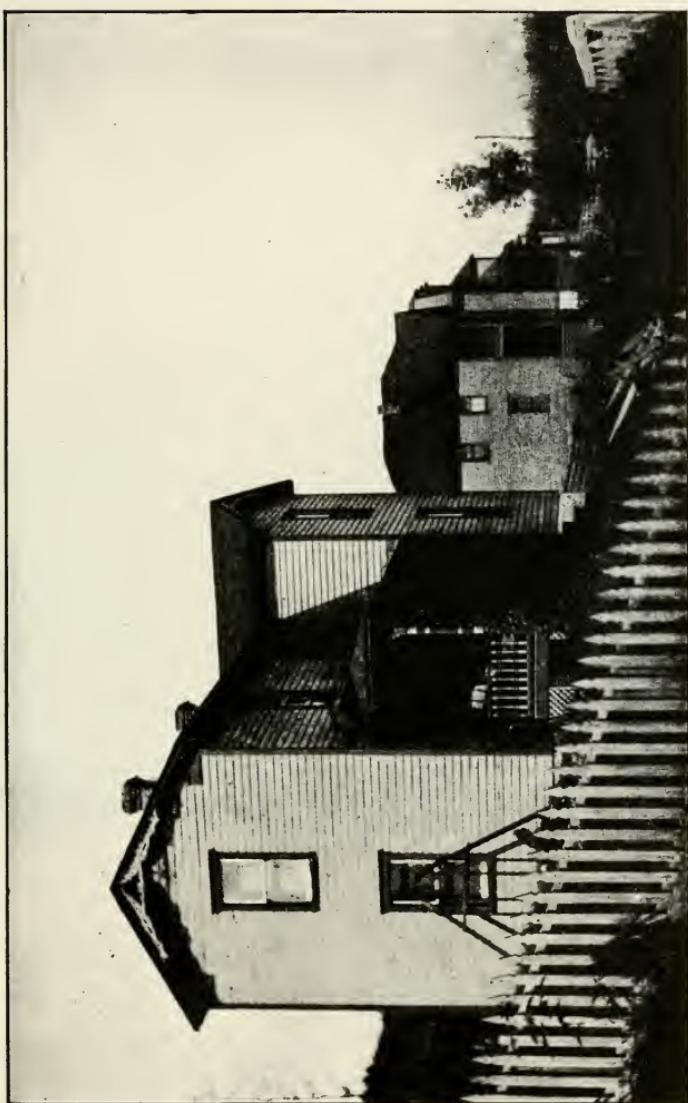
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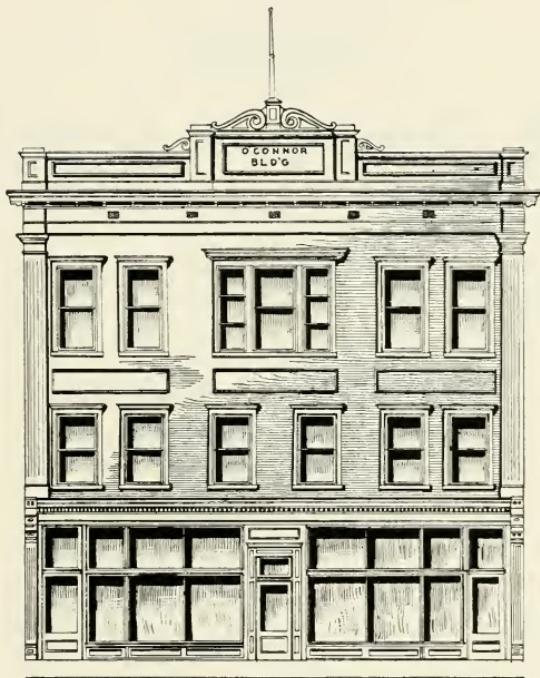
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